THE TIMES

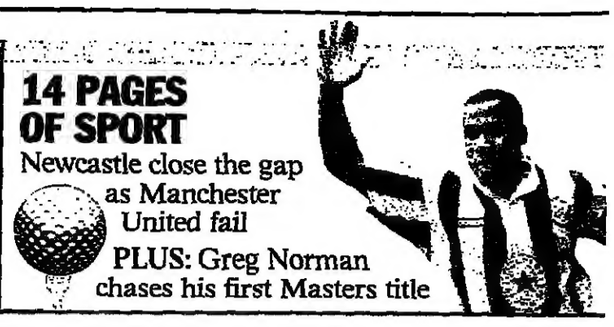
30P

No. 65,554

MONDAY APRIL 15 1996

JOBS FOR OUR CHILDREN
The future of work
PAGES 15,16

KALETSKY'S LABOUR
Income tax: the dilemna for Tony Blair
PAGE 18



14 PAGES OF SPORT
Newcastle close the gap as Manchester United fail
PLUS: Greg Norman chases his first Masters title

Portillo walks political tightrope as visitor during Operation Grapes of Wrath

400,000 flee Israeli raids on Lebanon

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

MICHAEL PORTILLO, the Defence Secretary, walks into a diplomatic minefield today when he becomes the first senior foreign politician to visit Israel since the launch last Thursday of Operation Grapes of Wrath, the military onslaught on Lebanon that is attracting increasing international criticism.

With the number of panic-stricken refugees fleeing southern Lebanon exceeding 400,000, some British ministers are understood to agree with President Chirac of France, who said yesterday that Israel's military operation, in which at least 21 people have been killed and about 50 wounded, was "disproportionate". European opinion has been shocked by reports of Saturday's Israeli attack on a clearly marked ambulance in which four Lebanese children were killed and for which Israeli officers have shown little remorse.

Mr Portillo's visit, which includes meetings with Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister and Defence Minister, an official lunch and tours of military installations, was arranged before the Lebanon operation began. It was intended originally as a further demonstration of improving Anglo-Israeli ties after Britain's recent lifting of its ban on arms sales to Israel. That ban had been imposed after the 1982 invasion of Lebanon masterminded by Ariel Sharon, who was then the Israeli Defence Minister.

Portillo: goodwill visit as Minister of Defence

"The focus will be on Portillo as the only senior statesman to set foot in Israel since the bombardments began," one European diplomat said. "I suspect that privately he would prefer to be in Bosnia or anywhere rather than here because whatever he says he is going to upset somebody: either his Israeli hosts if he condemns them or Britain's friends in the Arab world if he does not."

As Mr Portillo was touring holiday areas of southern Israel yesterday out of the political spotlight, northern Israel was suffering its worst series of rocket attacks for three years: nine salvoes of Katyushas had hit the area by nightfall.

Across the border, Lebanese residents over a vast area of territory south of the Litani River were given hours to flee northwards or risk being killed.

Shells from 155mm and 175mm cannon were fired into the more than 50 Lebanese villages affected by the ultimatum: smoke bombs were also fired as an added warning to all the residents to flee. The swirling smoke and deafening noise of the firing have increased anxiety among the Lebanese forced to flee in a procession of battered vehicles. Israel has said that any vehicles travelling south along the coast road from Beirut will be shot at.

Earlier, the Israelis fired missiles at an electricty substation near Beirut after an electricty installation near the Israeli town of Kiryat Shmona was damaged.

The Israeli Cabinet said it would continue the attacks until it secured guarantees that no more rockets would be fired across the border. For its part, Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed Islamic group, promised more attacks that would make life hell for the residents of northern Israel.

One Hizbollah rocket fell short yesterday and crashed into the headquarters of the United Nations peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon. It damaged a workshop but caused no casualties, a UN official said.

The uncompromising communiqué from a crisis meeting of the Israeli Cabinet announced bluntly: "If Israeli civilian facilities are hit, there will be no immunity from strikes on parallel Lebanese facilities. Israel is not limited by time, and has the patience, fortitude and the ability to continue carrying out the required actions until Hezbollah attacks cease." The communiqué said that Israel had no intention of returning to Lebanon, as it did in the 1982 invasion, but it added: "Hezbollah terrorists and facilities in Lebanon, including those in Beirut, will not enjoy immunity." Senior Israeli military sources said that the fighting was expected to continue for between one and two weeks.

Israel Radio reported that Mr Peres had clashed in a telephone conversation with President Chirac. When he described Israel's reaction as "disproportionate", Mr Peres replied that M Chirac would have responded in the same way if it was Paris that had been attacked.

According to diplomatic sources, some consideration was given by Britain to cancelling or postponing Mr Portillo's three-day visit, but it was considered that that would send too strong a message to Israel at a time when John Major is leading an international diplomatic initiative for a tougher collective stand against Iran and other sponsors of world terrorism. Instead, the sources said, Mr Portillo will urge restraint on the Israelis.

Such calls are unlikely to be heeded, with Israeli officials saying privately that until they are called to heel by the United States, they expect the violence being unleashed on Lebanon to worsen. One Israeli commander said: "We have not yet even moved into second gear."

Little interest was paid by the Israeli Government to calls from Damascus yesterday for a return to the ceasefire agreements that ended the similar 1993 attack. Under that diplomatic formula, Hezbollah and Israel would agree to limit their attacks to military targets inside southern Lebanon. Israel has accused Hezbollah of siting its Katyusha rocket launchers in civilian areas.

In Israel, there has been wide approval for the tough action and little political caution. The right-wing opposition Likud Party gave its full support to attacks in all parts of Lebanon.

Lebanon's refugees, page 10
Leading article, page 19

Refugees from Tyre in southern Lebanon crowded into a lorry yesterday as it crawled along jam-packed roads heading for the relative safety of Beirut

Imran gets royal call after bomb

THE Princess of Wales telephoned cricket star Imran Khan yesterday after the bomb attack on his cancer hospital in Lahore, Pakistan.

The Princess, who visited the hospital earlier this year to help to raise funds for the charity project, expressed sympathy for those caught in the blast, which killed six. She also spoke to Imran Khan's wife, Jemima, the Goldsmith heiress, who was flying out to Lahore from London last night.

By coincidence, the Princess had lunch in London yesterday with Jemima's parents, Sir James and Lady Annabel Goldsmith.

Hospital blast, page 12

Buying The Times overseas: Austria Sch 40; Belgium B Frs 80; Canada $3.25; Canaries Pes 325; Cyprus C£1.20; Denmark Dkr 18.00; Finland FmK 17.00; France F 14.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 500; Netherlands Fl 4.50; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 4,500; Luxembourg Lf 90; Madeira Esc 350; Malta 45c; Morocco Dir 27.00; Norway Kr 20.00; Portugal cont Esc 350; Spain Pts 325; Sweden Skr 19.50; Switzerland S Frs 4.00; Tunisia Din 2.200; USA $3.50.

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk

9 770140 046213 16

British beef is safe says EU farm chief

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

FARMERS joined furious Tory backbenchers and Euro-MPs yesterday in calling for an end to the EU ban on British beef after a senior Brussels official admitted it was safe to eat.

Franz Fischler, the European Agriculture Commissioner, said the ban, which has halted exports worth £600 million a year, had been imposed to calm consumer panic over "mad cow" disease and not because British beef was a health risk.

"I would not hesitate to eat beef in England". Herr Fischler said in an interview with Reuters in Absam, his home village in the alpine region of western Austria. "I see no medical reason not to."

He added: "For [public safety alone] a ban would not have been needed. We also wanted to make sure that the whole beef market did not collapse as dramatically as was unfortunately the case in Britain".

Herr Fischler, who has been tipped as a future Austrian president or federal chancellor, suggested that trade in some beef-derived products, such as gelatine and tallow, might be allowed to resume before the overall export ban was lifted.

Commenting on Herr Fischler's remarks, Sir David Naish, president of the National Farmers' Union, said: "British farmers have been under siege because of a decision by the Community, and it is just unacceptable to me if that was taken for purely political reasons."

A leading Tory Euro-sceptic, Sir Teddy Taylor, said: "Now that Fischler has admitted that he made a horrendous mistake and did it for all the wrong reasons, I hope other members of the EU Commission will listen to his abject, penitent and pathetic words of apology and remove the ban forthwith."

Sir Gerard Vaughan, Tory MP for Reading East, said: "This is an absolutely astonishing situation. Here is the man who has made Britain a scapegoat ... now conceding that all this has been done just for the convenience of Europe."

Edward McMillan-Scott, Euro-MP for York, called for an urgent review of the export ban. "This is a very encouraging message from a key figure. If he had said this earlier ... a lot of damage to the British and European beef sectors might have been avoided."

In Brussels Herr Fischler's press spokesman insisted the commissioner had disclosed nothing new: "If we really thought British beef was unsafe its sale would have been banned in Britain as well as everywhere else in the world. Besides, it was not Herr Fischler who closed the borders but ministers." The

Continued on page 2, col 4

Farmers' fears, page 2

"If there's a high over Newcastle there's always a low over Manchester"

Newcastle win

Newcastle United beat Aston Villa to close the gap at the top of the Premiership to three points. They have a game in hand over Manchester United who were beaten 3-1 at Southampton on Saturday, despite an emergency change of strip at half-time ..... Pages 3, 23, 27

Building Bosnia

More than 200 British companies are queuing to share in the reconstruction of former Yugoslavia, where £8 billion of work is expected. A security company hopes to win a contract to clear mines in Bosnia..... Page 44

Goldsmith threat

The billionaire financier Sir James Goldsmith increased the pressure on John Major over Europe when he announced he would field 600 referendum candidates with a campaign budget of at least £20 million..... Page 2

Clare Short apology for gaffe on tax

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPNDENT

TONY BLAIR'S campaign to reassure middle-income voters was undermined yesterday when his gaffe-prone frontbencher Clare Short appeared to suggest that those earning around £34,000 a year should pay higher taxes.

Ms Short, the Shadow Transport Secretary, was forced to issue a swift retraction when colleagues pointed out that her comments directly contradicted those made by the Labour leader last week. On GMTV's *Sunday* programme, Ms Short backed the leadership's calls for a fair tax system but added: "I think in a fair tax system people like me would pay a bit more tax."

During his visit to America last week Mr Blair said that he did not want to raise taxes for those on middle incomes. He has previously made clear that those on about £30,000 would not be targeted.

Ms Short's senior colleagues immediately described her comments as naive, and Labour officials were forced to defend the party against a barrage of attacks from Tory ministers claiming that its tax plans were in disarray. Mr Blair's aides said her comments had been infelicitous.

The Shadow Transport Secretary, who earns £34,085 as an MP, hurriedly issued a statement claiming that it was mischievous to see her remark as a call for higher taxes for people on middle incomes. She said most middle-income families had been "hammered by Tory tax rises; the Labour Party has no intention of adding to their tax bills".

Ms Short, who has twice recently embarrassed the leadership with off-the-cuff remarks, further angered some frontbench colleagues when, asked if her view had been cleared with Mr Blair, she said: "It's cleared with me. I speak for what I see to be the truth."

Ms Short previously embarrassed colleagues by advocating the legalisation of cannabis and by criticising the decision of Harriet Harman, the Shadow Health Secretary, to send her son to a selective school.

Short: "I speak for what I see to be the truth"

Anatole Kaletsky and Peter Riddell, page 18

OMEGA

Omega Seamaster Professional.
Self-winding chronometer
in stainless steel,
water-resistant to 300 m/1000 ft.
Swiss made since 1848.

£1'095.-

Stocked at leading independent Jewellers, Asprey, Garrard, Harrods, Selfridges, Harvey Nichols, Watches of Switzerland, Mappin & Webb, selected branches of Goldsmiths, Walker & Hall, Ernest Jones and Leslie Davies.
FOR YOUR NEAREST STOCKIST TELEPHONE 01703 611 612

TV & RADIO 42, 43
WEATHER 22
CROSSWORDS 22, 44
LETTERS 19
OBITUARIES 21
PETER RIDDELL 18
ARTS 14-15
CHESS & BRIDGE 33
COURT & SOCIAL 20
BUSINESS NEWS 38-42, 44
FUTURE OF WORK ... 15, 16
LAW REPORT 36

Transport ministry is on the road to closure

By Jonathan Prynn
Transport Correspondent

SENIOR officials are drawing up plans for the abolition of the Department of Transport if the Conservatives are returned to power at the general election.

The department, formed in the 1930s and long viewed as an ally of the powerful roads lobby, is seen as increasingly out of touch with changing government thinking on the environment. Advisers to Michael Heseltine also regard the department as a prime candidate for the axe in his drive to slim down the central bureacracy in Whitehall. With rail privatisation likely to be completed by next year and the roads programme stalled by Treasury spending cuts, the department is running out of things to do, officials believe.

Its Railway Directorate may disappear altogether with the sale of British Rail, and responsibility for new roads is being increasingly handed to private groups of construction companies. The department's budget has been slashed by half from more than £6 billion in the early 1990s to a predicted £4 billion by the end of the decade, with further cuts likely in this year's budget. "If you take a long hard look at the Department of Transport the logic for breaking it up become more and more compelling," said a well-placed Government source. "It is dripping with classic 1960s-style Whitehall thinking, good at spending money on behalf of the interests it represents, but hopeless at developing policy. Nothing will happen this side of an election, but if the Tories get back in, watch this space."

The proposed abolition is backed by the Treasury and by the Department of Trade and Industry, which would inherit some of the functions currently carried out by the Department of Transport. Fewer than 2,000 officials work in the head office in Marsham Street, although a further 10,000 are employed by its eight satellite executive agencies. If it is broken up, responsibility for aviation and shipping would be handed back to the Department of Trade and Industry, which handled them until the mid-1980s, while road planning would be transferred to the Department of Environment.

Only road safety, a success story for the Government, has no natural home, but would probably be handled increasingly at a local government level. Two other government ministries, the Department of Energy and the Department of Employment, have been dismembered in recent years and their functions dispersed among other ministries.

The Department of Transport is out of favour partly because of its perceived failure to deliver a coherent policy to deal with the growing problems of congestion and under-used public transport, despite 30 years of trying. It has only recently appointed an official with a full-time responsibility for co-ordinating the often conflicting policy advice from civil servants responsible for different modes of transport.

Goldsmith to fight 600 seats

Referendum party to have campaign budget of £20m

By Andrew Pierce and Arthur Leathley

THE billionaire financier Sir James Goldsmith increased the pressure on John Major over Europe yesterday when he announced that he would field 600 candidates at the general election with a campaign budget of at least £20 million.

Sir James has poached key staff from the Conservative Party to run his operation, which will be launched formally in October at a two-day conference in Brighton. Candidates such as Sir Alan Walters, Lady Thatcher's former economics adviser, will be introduced to the membership, which runs into thousands.

As Mr Major prepared to meet Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, today to plot the latest fightback strategy, Sir James, in an interview with *The Times*, outlined his terms for withdrawing his electoral threat.

He urged a Speaker's conference to be set up to decide the wording of a referendum question. "We are trying to obtain the right to a referendum," he said. "It is inappropriate to determine what the exact terms should be." If Mr Major — who has promised a referendum in the next Parliament if the Cabinet agrees a single currency — set up a Speaker's conference he would wind-up his party. "If he does not we will not dissolve and we will fight our heads off. I always look forward to a fight. But I would prefer to avoid it."

The Tory leadership, dismayed by the scale of the defeat in last week's by-elections, is alarmed that Sir James has upgraded his plans for 400 candidates on an election budget of £10 million. Sir James said yesterday he would spend at least £20 million or "what ever it takes" to oppose candidates who are not committed to a referendum.

Senior Tories were rattled by press reports that two unnamed backbenchers have held talks with Labour MPs about defecting. Tories in the 90 most marginal seats, with majorities of less than 7,000, fear they could lose at least 1,000 votes to the Referendum Party.

John Redwood, a former Cabinet minister, said yesterday that Sir James was a serious threat. "If he did damage in 25 seats that could be very worrying indeed. There are a lot of votes for anyone who says they want a better deal out of Europe."

Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, the former Tory party deputy chairman, told ministers to take the Goldsmith threat "very seriously indeed. We cannot underestimate that he is a very serious man: he has the power to lose the election for the Government."

Sir James said that the Tories had over-reacted. "It is not a left or right issue. It is a yes/no issue." However, he said that more Labour MPs had declared themselves in favour of a plebiscite.

The Referendum Party has been put on election footing. It is understood to be moving to a new base in Westminster soon. Sir James, who spends most of the year in France where he is a Euro-MP, has taken a small house in central London to devote more time to the campaign.

Judith Duckworth, a former Tory agent; Greg Trew, who was agent to David MacLean, the Home Office Minister; and Michael Gunton, a former press secretary to Lord Lawson of Blaby, have been recruited. Further defections are anticipated. They held a training session at the weekend for 30 candidates in St Albans, Hertfordshire.

The momentum will be maintained next weekend when Sir James addresses a rally in Westminster on Saturday. He will share a platform with Viscount Tonypandy, the former Speaker, and the next day he will give a television interview to Jonathan Dimbleby.

Sir James was scornful of Mr Major's leadership on Europe. He said: "The Prime Minister has tried to appease the Euro-sceptics and the Europhiliacs by producing a pseudo-referendum pledge subject to winning the election. It satisfies no one." The Government's White Paper on Europe was an act of appeasement, he said.

Sir James may contest Putney in the general election, where David Mellor is defending a majority of less than 7,000. "I want a constituency where the candidate is what I would call Euro-fantical," he said. He predicted that his party would "surprise immensely".

He dismissed Tory criticisms that he was delivering the general election to a more federalist Labour party. Mr Major, he said, had done nothing to stop the drift towards federalism.

Sir James has had approaches from self-appointed intermediaries for Downing Street. But he was dismissive. "There is no point in trying to accommodate the unacceptable," he said.

CHRIS HARRIS

Sir James Goldsmith yesterday, planning to move his party to Westminster

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hope over Falklands fish talks

Britain and Argentina achieved a breakthrough in their protracted negotiations over fishing rights around the Falkland Islands, the Foreign Office said yesterday (Michael Dynes writes).

During talks at the Iguazu Falls on the Argentine-Brazilian border, Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and Guido Di Tella, his Argentine counterpart, agreed on the need for consultations over licences to regulate fishing around South Georgia.

Argentina had previously refused to accept a British licensing system as this, in effect, conceded British sovereignty over the islands. More talks are also expected on the wider issue of fishing rights in the South Atlantic.

Police report on 'mercy killing'

A file on the death of a terminally ill pensioner, who was given two huge doses of morphine by her son, is to be sent to the Crown Prosecution Service, police said yesterday.

Derek Rowbottom, 44, from Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, said that he gave his 80-year-old mother, Alice, the overdoses after being unable to bear watching her die slowly from liver cancer at North Manchester General Hospital. Police were called in by the coroner to investigate.

Shortlist for women novelists

Four Americans and two Britons feature on the first shortlist of the £30,000 women-only Orange Prize for fiction, published today. Among them are Marianne Wiggins, former wife of novelist Salman Rushdie, and Chinese-American writer Amy Tan.

The prize, the largest award for a single novel, has been criticised by some women novelists who feel it creates an undesirable ghetto for their work. It will be presented in London on May 15.

Tins barely cost a bean in price war

Tesco is reducing the cost of baked beans to 3p a tin from today in the latest round of the supermarket price-cutting war. However, buyers will be restricted to just four tins per visit of its own-brand beans to prevent commercial buyers stripping the shelves.

Tesco first dropped its price to 4p after Asda began selling its beans for 5p a tin. Amid huge demand, Tesco has decided on a further cut. It is, however, still selling 1.5 million tins of Heinz beans a day at about 33p.

Renewing your home insurance in April or May ?

If you're 50 or over, just see how much you can save with Saga - call us NOW!

You will know how expensive home insurance can be - thankfully, if you're aged 50 or over you can benefit from Saga Home Insurance - a superior household insurance that's only available to mature, responsible people like you.

Because of this, Saga Home Insurance can offer you genuine savings over other policies, while giving you cover that fully protects your home and possessions.

The Saga Price Promise

If you find another comparable policy at a lower price within 2 months of taking out Saga Home Insurance, we'll refund you the difference.

- Exclusively for people aged 50 or over.
- Cover is comprehensive and low cost.
- Save 30% off WorldWide flights.
- Free pen with your quotation.

Call us today!

For your free no obligation quote simply call us on the number below. We will be pleased to answer any questions you have on Saga Home Insurance.

0800 414 525 ext.2759

Lines open Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm, Saturdays 9am - 1pm

SAGA Services Ltd

Saga Services Ltd, FREEPOST 731 Middelburg Square, Folkestone CT20 1AZ

Saga Services Ltd would like to send you information about services provided by other Saga companies and may pass details to these companies to enable them to do so

And why not ask us about our competitive MOTOR INSURANCE

Nolan plea over role of civil servants

By Nigel Williamson
Whitehall Correspondent

LORD NOLAN has been asked to investigate allegations that civil servants are assisting a Tory propaganda campaign to win the next General Election.

His committee on standards in public life has been asked to intervene in a row over guidelines issued to senior civil servants which say they should co-operate with requests from ministers to cost opposition policies.

Labour believes that the traditional impartiality of civil servants is being compromised. Derek Foster, Shadow Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, yesterday wrote to Lord Nolan asking him to conduct an investigation before the General Election.

Mr Foster also wrote to John Major. He said: "I am deeply disturbed by these reports and I am writing to the Prime Minister to ask him either to stop this abuse or to make the facility available to all political parties."

The guidance, issued by the Cabinet Office, states that ministers "should be responsible for identifying the text of commitments together with any further interpretation or assumptions necessary to allow the commitments to be costed".

A spokeswoman for the Cabinet Office said: "It is perfectly proper for civil servants to provide the facts. It is up to ministers what spin they put on them. Civil servants will not be asked to decipher Labour's manifesto, but it is legitimate to ask them to cost policy options."

British beef safe, says EU farm chief

Herr Fischler: "I would eat beef in England"

Continued from page 1

rumpus over Herr Fischler's confession came as the Ministry of Agriculture was finalising details of a plan to keep all cattle older than 30 months out of the food chain. These animals are considered more likely to be infected with BSE. Supermarkets say further improvement in beef sales — now running at about 80 per cent of their pre-scare level — will depend on the credibility of guarantees given to shoppers that all the meat now on offer comes from young animals.

But the British Veterinary Association warned against the "needless destruction" of thousands of healthy animals, and the NFU appealed for fair compensation for farmers who stand to lose prime beef cattle.

Ian Gardiner, the NFU's director of policy, said: "We accept the need to destroy old cows and the proposed basic compensation of 86p per kilo liveweight is fair. But we are pressing for top-up payments for owners of prime beef stock over 30 months old."

Abattoirs and meat processors also want the Government to compensate them for stockpiles of beef worth some £80 million which they cannot sell because of the export ban and the age limit on the cattle from which the meat comes.

Mark Ashworth, finance director of Midland Meat Packers, one of Britain's biggest beef exporters, said: "We have had to make 90 of our 530 employees redundant and lay off more than 300 others. The only solution is for the Government to buy up these stores of unwanted beef and destroy them."

Compensation for cull 'will leave some ruined'

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

French health authorities have acknowledged that the case of a 27-year-old man from Lyons who died of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in January this year was "absolutely identical" to the ten cases in Britain that were linked to a new strain of the disease.

BEEF farmers fear many of them could be ruined by plans for the cull and disposal of all cattle over 30 months old, which the Government is expected to announce this week.

Tens of thousands of prime steers and heifers reared for the beef market have become virtually worthless because the animals happen to exceed this age limit and can no longer be used for food. Beef producers believe they are being asked to carry the can for dairy farmers whose herds account for 90 per cent of the nearly 160,000 confirmed cases of "mad cow" disease so far recorded in the national cattle herd.

Under the cull plan, agreed with Britain's EU partners, farmers will be compensated at a rate of 86p per kilogram liveweight, which will average out at about £480 per animal destroyed. The EU will pay 70 per cent of the bill. This is roughly the market price dairy farmers would have got for the 15,000 barren old cows sent for slaughter every week anyway at the end of their working lives. These animals will now be burnt.

Dairy farmers can still sell milk from their cows. Their steers and heifers will remain eligible for sale as beef provided the animals are slaughtered before the age of 30 months, which they normally would be.

By contrast, beef farmers are estimated to have up to 1,00,000 prime steers and heifers on their farms for which there is now no market because the animals are older than 30 months. Many would go under if they were paid no more for these high-quality animals.

James Burnett, one of the biggest cattle farmers in Britain, has never had a case of BSE in the 1,400-strong herd of pedigree Charolais and Belgian Blue cattle he and his brother rear at Burridge Farm, near Newark, Nottinghamshire. In normal times, they kill up to 5,000 steers a year at between 33 and 34 months, the slaughter age for these Continental breeds, to supply beef to customers in France and Italy. Since March 26, exports have been banned by the EU and the cattle are now too old to be sold for beef here.

"The cattle would normally fetch up to £1,100 each", Mr Burnett said. "If we are compensated at the same rate as for old dairy cows we would lose up to £400 per animal. As our profit margin is only £30 a head, we would be ruined. All our cattle are fed on vegetable waste and have never been given the kind of rations which caused BSE."

Heritage dismisses 'troublemakers'

Kenwood Friends accuse Stevens of neglecting masters

BY DALYA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SIR Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, was last night embroiled in a dispute over a priceless collection of Old Masters. Critics accused him of putting the works at risk by scaling down the organisation's responsibilities for Kenwood House on Hampstead Heath.

Patrons of Kenwood said that under his leadership English Heritage had neglected the 18th-century building, which has an outstanding Robert Adam interior and one of the nation's most important collections of paintings and furniture.

At their annual meeting, some of the hundreds of Friends of Kenwood urged Sir Jocelyn to reinstate a full-time curator to oversee the display, care and study of a collection that includes Vermeer, Rembrandt and Gainsborough.

Sir Jocelyn, who did not attend the meeting yesterday, dismissed the protesters as "troublemakers". He criticised George Levy, a leading antiques dealer who chaired the meeting, and Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC, as "people with plenty of spare time" who "have got used to the impression that they run Kenwood".

"The Friends are not behaving like friends. They are behaving in a very aggressive manner," Sir Jocelyn said. "We don't actually need the Friends if they're going to behave like this." Lindsay Stainton, one of the Friends, said the family of Edward Cecil Guinness, the 1st Earl of Iveagh (1847-1927), who bequeathed the collection to the nation, was "very upset and deeply concerned".

Stevens: had to cut costs

Stainton: voiced criticism

Miss Stainton, a curator at Kenwood in the 1970s, said: "Stevens runs [English Heritage] as a personal fiefdom. He's the guardian of our heritage ... he's not lord and master."

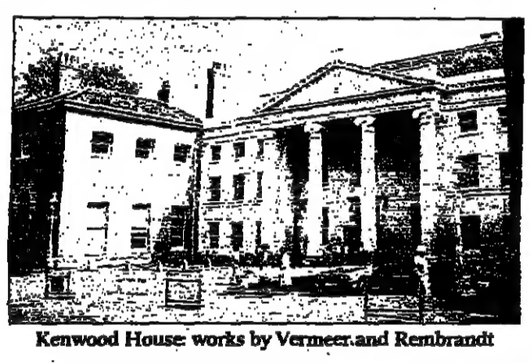
A motion urging the appointment of a permanent curator and expressing concern at room closures was passed unanimously yesterday. The three full-time curators at the house, a popular venue for concerts, were withdrawn last year. One Friend complained that the administrator appointed to run the house was a former manageress of an old people's home with no expertise in art.

Peter Barber, deputy map librarian at the British Library, said an untrained administrator would not see what a curator saw. Objects that had lasted for hundreds of years were damaged imperceptively day by day. "We've had a robust response from Jocelyn Stevens. It's right we should give him an equally robust response."

Mr Barber said private collectors felt less inclined to lend their works to Kenwood because English Heritage had downgraded the house's importance as a centre for 18th-century studies. A Rubens and two Panini works had been withdrawn by their lenders, he said. "This is the first step in its decline. In 30 years' time we will find ourselves in the same position as houses in Italy — closed."

Sir Jocelyn sent two members of staff to the meeting. Ian Dejardin, one of English Heritage's curators, who visits Kenwood at least twice a week, explained the withdrawal of the Rubens and Panini loans. He said the owners had wanted to show off the paintings in their newly recorated homes. "What am I to say? 'No you can't?' "

Sir Jocelyn said there was no need for a senior curator to be based at Kenwood, and that the collection had never been in better condition. He pointed out that the house cost £1 million a year to run, and English Heritage was faced with a £44 million cut in its government grant over the next four years.


Kenwood House: works by Vermeer and Rembrandt

MARC ASPLAND

Mick Adkin training for next Sunday's London Marathon, when he hopes to beat the 2hr 55min he ran in 1984

Crippled runner's marathon task

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

A PARAPLEGIC athlete is to take part in the London Marathon on Sunday, 12 years after he competed as an able-bodied athlete.

Mick Adkin, a solicitor from Woking, Surrey, aims to beat the 2hr 55min he recorded in 1984. His running days ended a year later when a hit-and-run driver crashed a stolen car into his touring bicycle in Brittany. Mr Adkin, 44, remembers nothing of the crash. He spent five months in hospital and is now in a wheelchair with no movement below the shoulders.

However he returned to the solicitors firm in Woking, where he is now a partner, and, as a keen sportsman, was determined to enjoy as many aspects of his old life as he could. Although running was gone, he took up skiing.

Friends pestered him to try the marathon so he finally agreed, and he is to raise funds for the International Spinal Research Trust and Woking Hospice Appeal.

A dozen years on from his last competition, his training routine is much the same. He leaves his car at work, changes into his sporting clothes and dodges the rush-hour traffic until he can cut through into the back roads between New Haw to Woking. The next morning he trains alongside the early morning traffic on his way to the office before changing into his working clothes.

Mr Adkin makes light of the effort but it takes him longer to change and climb from his daytime wheelchair into his £1,500 three-wheeled racing model than it does to complete the journey. "I'm relatively careful and always fully lit up, but most people probably think 'There goes that moron' when I go shooting across the main roads. Whenever the police come up beside me they say, 'Are you completely mad?' "

The reaction is one he has grown used to, and accepts. "To be honest, if I see someone in a wheelchair at the top of a mountain I will look because it's unusual," he said. "You do get all the questions about courage and resilience and it can get repetitive because I have heard them so many times, but most people are very helpful and you tend to have to be an ambassador on all sorts of occasions.

"I'm looking forward to getting on with it. At first I thought there was no way I could even train because of all the potholes, rubbish and cambers on the main road, so I went on to the minor roads. Now I hope to be able to beat my 1984 time. We'll see."

IN THE TIMES

■ **Tomorrow:** our 12-page guide to the Flora London Marathon. **Next week:** the complete list of finishers, only in *The Times*.

Mr Adkin in 1984

Loyalist gunmen blamed for £1m robbery

BY A STAFF REPORTER

LOYALIST paramilitaries were behind the £1 million-plus Securicor robbery in Belfast, police said last night. One man is being questioned by detectives attempting to trace at least six men involved in one of Northern Ireland's largest armed raids.

The money was due to be delivered to the Post Office but was seized on the outskirts of the city after four members of a family, one of them mentally handicapped and another suffering from respiratory problems, were handcuffed and gagged at their home.

Their relative, a Securicor driver, was told to collect cash from the firm's depot and drive it to the outskirts of Belfast. It is understood that the RUC is attempting to find out if there was any inside help, but Securicor has so far declined to comment.

Three armed men who held the family hostage claimed to be from the IRA, but police said they were satisfied that loyalist paramilitaries, possibly from the Ulster Defence Association, were involved. More than £1 million in used notes and some unsigned credit cards were stolen.

None of those held captive was hurt, but police said some were gagged with adhesive type and were extremely distressed. They were held for more than four hours in a bedroom of their home in the Protestant Taughmonagh estate of south Belfast. Three armed and hooded men burst in early on Saturday morning.

The Securicor man was handed a map with instructions to go to his depot in the Stranmillis area and drive the cash to Fort Road, Ballylesson. He was accompanied by a colleague and when they arrived they were confronted by three more masked gunmen. The pair were ordered out, taken to outbuildings handcuffed to window frames and blindfolded with pillow cases.

Bags of cash were switched to a red Ford Escort van later found abandoned in the Finaghy area a few miles away and close to where the family had been held captive.

Treasure hunters fight plan for new law

BY TIM JONES

TREASURE hunters will meet National Heritage officials today to try to avert new laws governing their discoveries. The proposals would mean they could be fined up to £5,000 and sentenced to three months in prison if they failed to report a find to a coroner within two weeks.

The current Treasure Trove law says only objects made of gold or silver, which have been deliberately buried with the intention of recovery, can be declared treasure trove and are therefore the property of the Crown. Other finds can be kept by the finder.

The Bill, heading for its third reading in Parliament, will remove the requirement to prove that objects were intentionally buried.

All objects, other than coins, which contain at least 5 per cent by weight of gold or silver and are at least 300 years old will be treasure and deemed the property of the Crown.

Coins that are more than 300 years old found in hoards will be treasure and if they contain more than 5 per cent of precious metal.

The National Heritage department denies the Bill is hostile to the electronic searchers and says there are no plans to alter the practice under which detectorists who make a treasure trove find are paid the market price.

Reds in a blue funk over lack of eminence in grey

BY ALAN HAMILTON AND PETER BALL

LIFE is tough when you are a Manchester United supporter. You have just shelled out £50 in the souvenir shop at Old Trafford to buy the children the new grey away strip when the players threaten to ditch it because they cannot see each other.

The team under pressure at the top of the Premiership was unexpectedly losing against Southampton, under pressure near the foot of the table, on Saturday when, at half time, manager Alex Ferguson ordered them to switch to a blue and white kit. That they were losing 3-0 had something to do with the fact that they were blending into the background, Ferguson said.

His decision will be welcomed by the club's thousands of teenage and sub-teenage followers; although they loved the two-tone grey as the perfect accompaniment to blue denim jeans, there is promise of yet another new strip on the way.

But the news will cause dismay among the fans' parents, who already suffer from United's aggressive marketing policy which involves bringing out a new strip at least once a season. Young Mancunians' desire to be in the front row of fashion means hundreds of thousands of pounds for the club every time there is a change of colours.

The grey strip for away games was introduced at the start of this season, and thousand of fans queued at Old Trafford to buy it. Kids on the block across Greater Manchester would not be seen dead in last year's kit. Suppose, by accident, they encountered a Manchester City supporter; how cruel the taunts would be.

United's amazing Technicolor strips are supplied under a lucrative sponsorship deal with Umbro, the Manchester-based sportswear manufacturer. The club signed a five-year contract with Umbro earlier this year, estimated to be worth £60 million over five years. The grey shirt was due to be played in for two years.

Ferguson said yesterday that the team disliked the grey strip, and would not be using it again. "You can't pick people out at a distance. Players just blend into the crowd, so I decided at half-time to change it." He denied suggestions that his team were superstitious, and felt that grey brought bad luck. United have appeared five times in their grey strip: they lost four of the matches and struggled to draw the fifth.

Ken Ramsden, spokesman for the club, could not say yesterday whether the abandonment of grey would mean yet another edition of strip foisted upon fans. "Nothing has been decided at the moment," Mr Ramsden said.

There were indications yesterday that Umbro at least are receptive to Ferguson's unhappiness, and they are expected to meet United representatives today to discuss the matter. "Of course we will meet them if they want to talk to us," Mr Ramsden said, "but we will not be instigating a meeting."

United off colour, page 27

All change: Cantona goes from grey to blue stripes

Rush for the BR logo now departing

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of British Rail's "double arrow" logos are being sold off to rail enthusiasts as a momento of the fast-disappearing nationalised company.

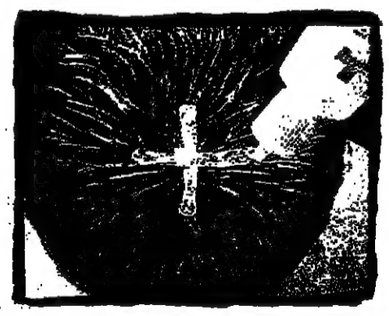
With the Government determined to complete the BR sale before the election, the famous emblem has already disappeared from all stations, railway posters, marketing material and the inside of most trains, and will eventually be removed from tickets. However, when *Rail* magazine saved about 1,000 aluminium double arrows from the side of BR's former fleet of post and charter trains, it found a sale offer heavily oversubscribed. Steve Knight, the deputy editor who has two of the metal signs at home, said they had received 1,200 orders for the souvenir, priced at £34.95, with dozens more flooding in every day. A 24-hour credit card hotline has been set up.

Purchasers receive a certificate identifying which locomotive their double arrow came from. The logos, with a scrap value of £5, measure about 70cm by 30cm and weigh 5kg.

North & South Railways, the American-owned company that has bought Rail Express Systems, a former BR subsidiary that operated Post Office and charter trains, has been given 90 days by BR to remove the double arrow from all its locomotives and stationery. Most of the 16,000 former BR passenger trains sold last September had painted logos rather than a metal sign.

The symbol was invented by George Williams, director of industrial design at BR in the mid-1960s. When it was first revealed in 1964, one newspaper critic said it was like "a piece of twisted barbed wire." But Barry Doe, a transport consultant who has one on his sitting room wall, said: "Despite all the jokes, I believe that it was one of the finest logos ever invented because it is so simple."

After privatisation, it will survive on road signs, printing, stationery



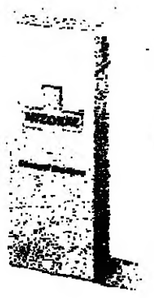
To many this concept would sound melodramatic. Not to us. Only dandruff sufferers know what a heavy cross this condition is to bear. An itchy, flaky scalp will not only cause physical distress, it can undermine your confidence, too. Our research taught us that dandruff is caused by a microbe. A medical condition demanding a reliable medical solution – First Aid.

Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo works differently. As the microbe is prevented from returning, so too, are the itching and flaking symptoms. Unlike some harsher anti-dandruff treatments, our Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo is actually nice to use as well, being gentle and perfume free. So all you'll be aware of is how clean and healthy your hair feels.

First Aid for your dandruff.

Our solution, the Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo formula, proved so successful that it's been tried and trusted by doctors and dermatologists for years. Our shampoo cares for your hair differently. The breakthrough came when we identified and patented an ingredient that would specifically target and prevent the microbe that is the root cause of dandruff.

Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo is effective, and after an initial period of using it twice weekly, you should only need to use it once a week to keep dandruff away. In between, you can wash your hair with whatever shampoo you like. You can buy a bottle from your pharmacist without prescription. To obtain your free information leaflet, call 0990 134 218.



NIZORAL DANDRUFF SHAMPOO. FIRST AID FOR DANDRUFF.

ONLY AVAILABLE FROM YOUR PHARMACIST. CONTAINS KETOCONAZOLE. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL. NIZORAL DANDRUFF SHAMPOO IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK.

Book condemns Macmillan plot

Queen's decision to block Butler 'damaged Crown'

By Alan Hamilton

COLLUDING with Harold Macmillan to block the succession of R. A. Butler as Prime Minister in 1963 was the biggest political misjudgment of the Queen's reign, a new book claims.

Ben Pimlott, professor of politics and contemporary history at Birkbeck College, London, says that, faced with Macmillan's ruthless determination that Butler should not become Conservative leader, despite being the obvious candidate, the Queen took the line of least resistance and allowed herself to be turned into a political pawn. The result was a disaster for what remained of royal discretionary power.

In a biography of the Queen published to mark her seventieth birthday next Sunday, Professor Pimlott argues: "The whole sorry tale of the selection of Macmillan's successor shows how easily the monarch, if he or she forgoes the role of arbiter, can be exploited by unscrupulous politicians with an agenda of their own."

Macmillan announced his departure in dramatic fashion, from a hospital bed where he was awaiting a prostate operation. In a reversal of usual practice, the Queen had to travel to see him and to accept his resignation. During the half-hour farewell meeting which Pimlott describes as "the most remarkable audience in modern monarchical history", Macmillan suggested that the Queen call on the Earl of Home as her next Prime Minister. At the time, the highly regarded Butler was Deputy Prime Minister and the favoured candidate.

Enoch Powell, the veteran parliamentarian, says in the book: "The Queen was a victim of a violation of the Constitution. It is unthinkable that a Prime Minister should say 'Here is my resignation' and then 'Here's my advice.'"

Courtiers quoted by Pimlott recall that as soon as the Queen returned from the hospital, she expressed a wish to call on Home. One suggests: "Rab [Butler] wasn't her cup of tea. When she got the advice to call Alec [Douglas-Home] she thought, 'Thank God.' She loved Alec. He was an old friend. They talked about dogs and shooting together. They were both Scottish landowners, the same sort of people, like old school friends."

Lord Charteris of Amisfield, than an assistant private secretary to the Queen, recalls her almost-instant desire to summon Home: "It is interesting that she should have felt such an inclination, without any doubts: for the man she had just spoken to [Macmillan] had no more constitutional authority than any other MP, a point of which she was firmly reminded in the car on the way back to the Palace by Adeane [her private secretary], who stressed that, as the advice was non-constitutional, she did not have to take it."

Professor Pimlott suggests that the wily and Machiavellian Macmillan, raking around for a stop-Butler candidate, happened upon Home for the very reason that he would hold strong personal appeal for the Queen: "Macmillan's motives were complex and devious. The Queen's were, as ever, simple. She wished to avoid constitutional impropriety, and believed that this was to be achieved by taking the line of least resistance."

There was little direct criticism of the Queen at the time; Macmillan was considered the main villain whose advice was hard to refuse. One positive result of the debacle was that it led to a major change in the way the Conservative Party chose its leaders.

☐ The Princess Royal would be a more popular monarch than the Prince of Wales, according to a MORI poll on who should succeed the Queen. The Princess won most support with 33 per cent, against 26 per cent for the Prince. Prince William was third in the poll, with 12 per cent. The survey of 2,000 voters for tonight's *World in Action* programme on ITV showed that 62 per cent would vote for the monarchy in a referendum.

☐ *The Queen: A Biography of Queen Elizabeth II*, will be published by HarperCollins on 16 September.

Butler, left, and Macmillan: loser and final victor

Liver girl bounces back after triple transplant

By Lin Jenkins

A GIRL who had a record three liver transplants within a fortnight is celebrating her fourth birthday by launching an appeal for more people to carry donor cards.

Reeva Weeden was given a 2 per cent chance of survival when her condition deteriorated so badly that a third liver transplant was her only chance of life.

At the time of the operations in April 1993 her mother, Kelli Weeden, 26, almost gave up hope. "We never thought we would see her fourth birthday," she said. "She is a dainty girl because of the lost year, but I am so grateful she is alive."

Reeva, whose name comes from the Latin for "strength regained", was born with a severe defect of the bile duct. She was jaundiced, suffered acute skin complaints and was on antibiotics for the first weeks of her life. Efforts to repair the duct failed and she was referred to Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge for a transplant.

"If she had not had the first transplant she would have died," her mother said. However, she developed complications and had to undergo a second transplant, which also failed. "The doctors thought she would not pull through. She really was very poorly and they discussed whether to give her another chance. There was also a risk of brain damage if she did survive a third transplant. In the end, she is your child and you just want her to live."

Reeva, who lives in Louth, Lincolnshire, with her parents and her sister Khaley, eight, and brother Brent, six, is heading an appeal on behalf of the Children's Liver Disease Foundation for more donors. Alan Rasmussen, the consultant who carried out the surgery, said that for a child to undergo three such operations in two weeks was an extraordinary ordeal.

Reeva Weeden: at one point doctors gave her a 2 per cent chance of survival

NEWS IN BRIEF

Body found in sports centre pool

Five people were being questioned by police after a 30-year-old man was found dead in a swimming pool. The partially clothed body of Stephen Westwood was found after officers were called to a suspected break-in at the Hardwick sports centre in Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland, on Saturday. A post-mortem examination and forensic tests were being carried out on Mr Westwood, who lived in the area.

Murder charges

A man will appear in court today charged with murdering twin brothers found in a canal with head injuries. David Dillon, 37, unemployed, of Islington, north London, will appear before Highbury Corner magistrates.

Two accused

Michael Crossley, 34, of Northfleet, Kent, has been charged with the unlawful detention of Michelle Wilson. On the same charge is Steven Playle, 33, of Sidcup, who is also charged with murdering her father, David, in 1992.

Britons killed

Two Britons died when their motorcycle crashed into an oil tanker near New Delhi. Alexander Ayalpar and Lisa Genny, from Birmingham, were returning from visiting Fatehpur Sikri, an abandoned city near Agra.

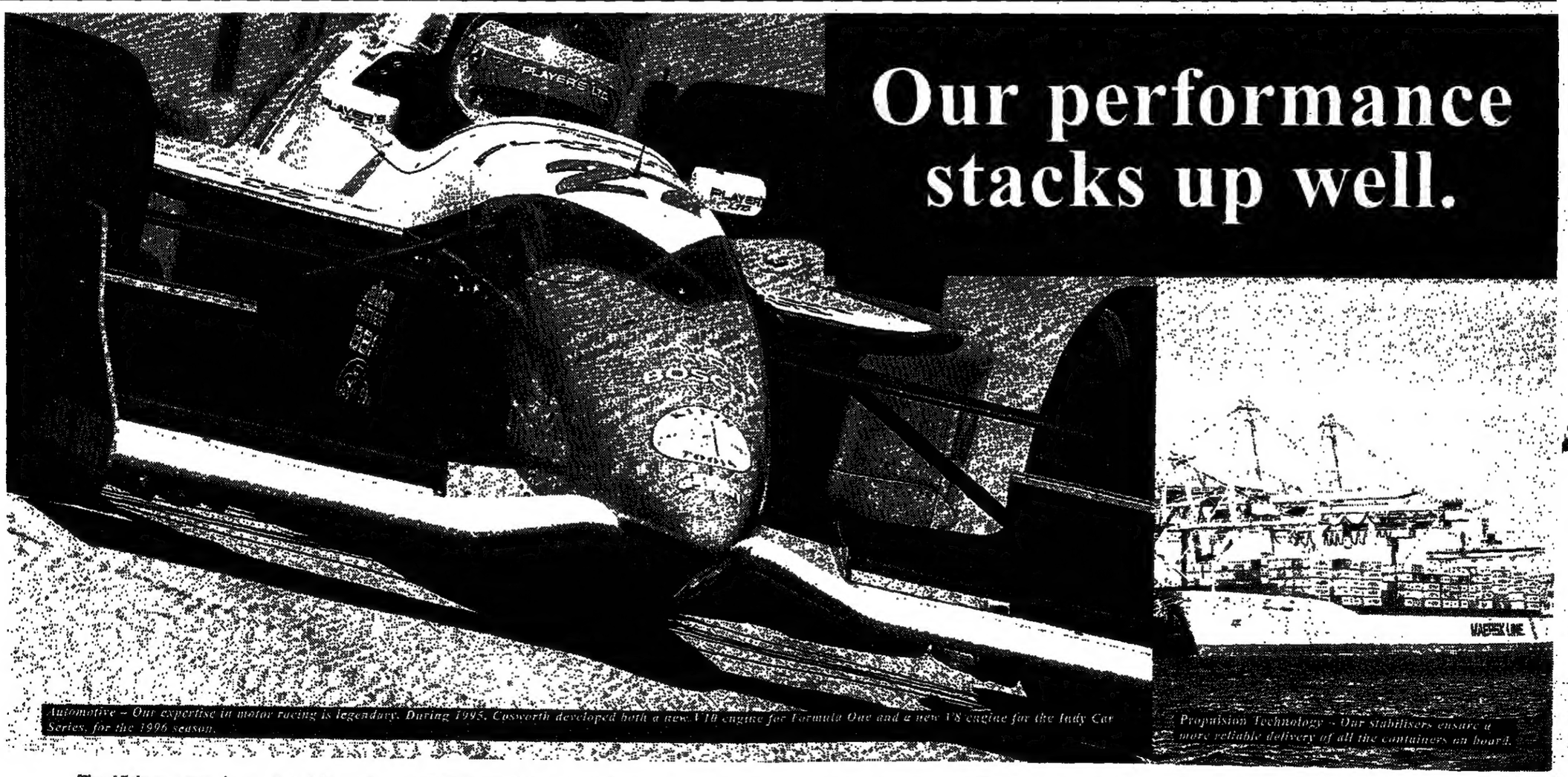
Reward demand

Gatwick Zoo has received a note demanding a reward of more than £300 for Bruce, a five-year-old South American macaw that flew off after Jemma, its four-year-old companion, was stolen from the zoo.

£3.8m winners

Three tickets won £3.8 million each in the weekend's National Lottery draw. Sixteen tickets matched five numbers plus the bonus ball to win £221,342 and 933 had five balls to win £2,372.

Winning numbers, page 22



The Vickers group is on the right track. Another year of growth and greatly accelerated investment at Vickers P.L.C. has stacked up some impressive figures. Over £1 billion turnover for the first time in the Company's history, for example.

And a £78.4 million operating profit* in 1995 - up 49% on 1994.

Which is why the businesses in the group are continuing to approach the future with confidence.

Cosworth, part of the Automotive grouping, is well advanced in a programme of broadening its product base.

Not merely content with supplying a new V10 engine for top Formula One teams and a new V8 engine for U.S. Indy Car teams, another area into which Cosworth has diversified is extremely precise and intricate aluminium castings, placing Cosworth in the vanguard of the industry's rapidly-increasing move away from cast iron engine blocks and cylinder heads.

Cosworth has developed and patented unique castings technology and has accelerated investment for medium and longer term growth by building a £25 million factory to supply well known marques with high precision aluminium alloy castings.

In our Propulsion Technology division, Brown Brothers is another company with a great track record as one of the leading manufacturers of motion control equipment for ships and other floating structures.

It produces the world's largest folding fin stabilisers, normally associated with cruise ships. But they're also increasingly being installed in container shipping - the 'Regina Maersk' is the first of 12 larger vessels to be so equipped.

This VM series of retractable fin stabilisers represents the very latest in designs that span over 50 years of continuous development.

Cosworth and Brown Brothers are typical of the dynamic companies driving Vickers P.L.C. forward.

We've made a commitment to work towards consistent improvement for shareholders.

We believe our performance will continue to stack up well.

*Before restructuring and other exceptional costs

Vickers

AUTOMOTIVE • DEFENCE SYSTEMS • PROPULSION TECHNOLOGY • MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Vickers P.L.C., Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4RA Tel: +44 (0)171-828 7777 Fax: +44 (0)171-828 6585

New cancer surgery may save 2,500 lives a year

By Derek Prigent and Stephen Farrell

A LIFE-SAVING operation has been approved by the Royal College of Surgeons after years of campaigning by a consultant. It means that victims of rectal cancer may be able to have more specific surgery rather than a "bombing" technique in which organs are said to be removed unnecessarily.

Cancer of the colon and rectum is the second-biggest cancer killer in Britain after lung cancer. Bill Heald estimates that, if all surgeons adopt the technique that he has promoted, about 2,500 lives a year could be saved.

Guidelines approved by the Royal College last week recommend his technique of "total mesorectal excision" in the 8,000 cases a year where cancer strikes in the lower rectum. Two thirds of patients seen by his team at the North Hampshire Hospital in Basingstoke are cured, against the national average of one third. Mr Heald, 59, has performed the operation for 17 years, refining and demonstrating it to surgeons from Australia, South Africa, the United States and Europe.

Other doctors in specialist centres around Britain also use the procedure, which takes between three and six hours and often avoids the need for colostomy bags. But many general surgeons still use abdomino-perineal resection, which removes far more surrounding tissue and sacrifices the anal canal, but takes a fraction of the time.

Mr Heald, who was elected vice-president of the Royal College of Surgeons at the meeting which approved the procedure, said: "I am delighted the method has received the official stamp of the college." He argues that medical advances and careful analysis of the cancer make it no longer necessary to remove all the organs and tissue previously extracted. The cancer is usually confined to an area of tissue around the rectum known as the mesorectum, he claims.

"The difference lies entirely in precision. It has always been assumed that the old operation had to be the best because it was the biggest. But you can have less mutilation simply by being very precise," he said.

"Removing the anus and tissues around it is actually irrelevant to the cure of cancer; it is just easier and quicker, but less precise. It is like using a bigger bomb to destroy something rather than removing it more accurately. I think in the early years a lot of people simply didn't believe my data was correct."

Mr Heald has performed 60 operations abroad — in Norway, Sweden, Germany, Italy and Finland — using a £57,000 high-definition Sony back-projection system to allow other surgeons to view from adjacent rooms. A two-day demonstration will be held at the Royal College in London this week for 26 surgeons eager to learn the technique. "It has occupied five years of my life and represents a lot of personal sweat, but it has been very satisfying," he said.

The guidelines must now go before the Department of Health for independent assessment before being approved by the NHS executive.

Heald: five-year fight for change in methods

GILL ALLEN

Laura Jenkins, one of the last to become a registered general nurse, at Guy's

Guy's says farewell to its last trainee nurses

■ The first nurses to train at Guy's learnt only from practical experience; Joanna Bale talks to one who marks the end of an era

THE last nurses to train at Guy's Hospital School of Nursing in London will graduate next month at a commemorative service at Southwark Cathedral.

Laura Jenkins, 23, will be among the last to receive the coveted Guy's School of Nursing graduation badge. When Ms Jenkins joined Guy's School of Nursing in January 1993, she was following in the footsteps of her mother, who trained there in the late 1960s. "I had no idea I would be one of the last Guy's nurses," she said. "It's a great honour, but it really is the end of an era. Guy's nurses are world-renowned."

She will be among the last to receive the registered general nurse qualification. Nursing training has been revolutionised since the school became part of a new training college, the Nightingale Institute, when Guy's merged with St Thomas's Hospital in 1993. Nurses are now trained under Project 2000, which treats them more like students, with the emphasis on theory rather than ward-based experience.

Miss Jenkins said: "I was paid a salary and worked mostly on the wards, with just a few weeks here and there at college. Nursing trainees now get a bursary and spend most of their time at college."

When she became a trainee she was paid £7,000 plus overtime. Now she will receive a salary of £13,000 as a staff nurse at Guy's, where she has been offered a job. She is currently working on a general surgical ward where she works eight-hour shifts, starting at either 7.15am or 1.30pm, and has every weekend off when the ward shuts. She said: "When you finish your training you have to apply for a job — not everyone has been as lucky as me. Some are still looking."

Like all nurses, she feels under pressure because many trained nurses have been replaced by lesser-qualified health-care assistants. "I wish we had more time to talk to the patients, but it is still a very rewarding career," she said.

Her experience is a far cry from that of Annie Cooper, who joined Guy's School of Nursing during its first year, 1880. When the hospital had opened in 1726, for "incurables", its nurses were untrained and their only uniform was a medallion inscribed with the name of the ward and their status, worn over their own clothes. They were usually poor, illiterate women who were frequently reprimanded for being drunk and disorderly and for stealing food.

A sister from Guy's at the turn of the century

By the time the School of Nursing began things had changed dramatically. Annie Cooper was 23 — the minimum age — when she joined as a trainee nurse.

The food was rough and unappetising and she worked ten-hour day shifts and 12-hour night shifts. Miss Cooper lived with 15 other trainees in a dormitory in the hospital's attic. She took her meals in the basement, a small, airless room.

The nurses at Guy's, as at the other great voluntary hospitals, were divided into two groups, a smaller body of lady-pupils and a larger group of ordinary women, such as Miss Cooper. The lady-pupils paid a considerable fee for a training that was condensed into one year. They lived in the comparative luxury of the Matron's House.

Miss Cooper's training was basic and the nurses could be taught only in the wards because there was nowhere else. Her duties included making swabs and dressings by stitching together pieces of cloth. She also spent much of her time scrubbing the ward floors and washing linen in the sculleries. There were no weekends off or holidays until 1894.

The subtle shake and rattle that depends on role

MEDICAL BRIEFING

WHENEVER I was called out in the early hours to visit someone who was having an attack of the shakes the diagnosis was usually obvious. I went expecting to find either that the person had a rapidly developing fever and was suffering from rigors, or had been subjected to a severe shock that had left them shaking uncontrollably.

Subtle shakes, which can be pointers to disease or a sign of a hard-drinking — even dissolute — life, are a greater test of a doctor's skills. Two scientists, Dr Geoffrey Walsh of Edinburgh University and Dr Martin Lakie of Birmingham University, have developed a tremorometer, a microchip which is held in the hand and can define a shake more expertly than a doctor or barman. The results of their research were presented last week at the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

Doctors classify a tremor according to its speed, the part of the body involved, its nature (whether coarse or fine) and whether it is more obvious when the patient is relaxing (arresting tremor), or active (an intention tremor). Many diseases, including Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, Wilson's disease, and thyrotoxicosis, have characteristic tremors. An unfair assumption is that anyone with shaking hands is recovering from a heavy night's drinking. Excessive alcohol can produce a shake the following day but it is not the only drug that can be to blame. Patients on some antidepressants, for instance, develop such a marked shake that their cups rattle in their saucers when they hold them.

Alcohol produces several different sorts of shake. The fine tremor follows too good a party; *delirium tremens*, a terrified trembling accompanied by hallucinations, is triggered when a heavy drinker gives up alcohol too quickly, and there is the coarse tremor of liver failure — flapping hands and a tongue which flickers in and out like a viper.

The tremorometer has been used to study physiologic tremors, the slight shake which many people display when tense or anxious and which can be enhanced by anything which increases these emotions, and the benign hereditary tremor. Fortunately the tremorometer has confirmed the clinical observation that a stiff drink lessens this particular shake — less cheering is the news that so do beta blockers.

Physiologic tremors are common in anxiety-making professions such as journalism and medicine — a perfect excuse for medicals correspondent with a fine shake.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Woman to bear her own grandchild

By Lin Jenkins

A WOMAN aged 51 who is pregnant after an embryo implant is believed to be the first in Britain to bear her own grandchild.

Edith Jones offered to act as surrogate when medical tests confirmed that her daughter had been born without a womb. Mrs Jones said yesterday: "I am absolutely thrilled. It is early days yet but, God willing, the baby, or maybe even babies, will go full term."

She is carrying an embryo created from eggs taken from her daughter, Suzanne Langston, and fertilised in a laboratory with sperm from her son-in-law, Christopher. Two embryos were implanted three weeks ago at the BMI Park Hospital in Nottingham. A scan in a few weeks' time will show whether she is having twins.

Mrs Jones, of Darlington, Co Durham, said: "This is the only way Suzanne can have a child. This baby will not be mine. It is genetically Suzanne and Christopher's. All I am doing is lending them my body for nine months."

The treatment went ahead after the case was approved by the ethics committee of the hospital last year.

Colonial.

Save Choose Arrange Organise Phone Mail

The busy person's guide to finding the right mortgage quickly

Before you do anything give us a call FREE on 0800 828 585

Lines open Mon to Fri 8am - 8pm

Colonial. DIRECT

Now we're talking mortgages.

Quote ref: TI31

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Colonial Direct represents the Colonial Mutual Marketing Group which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. We can advise you only on our products. For your added security all telephone calls will be recorded and the recording kept secure. Colonial Direct, Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4YY.

BREITLING 1884

CHRONO COCKPIT

When *Concorde* climbs to its cruising altitude of 16,000 m, it demonstrates its unique manner of fusing advanced aerodynamics and unrivalled performance with pure beauty. Swiftly, unerringly, it will cover an ocean's breadth at 2,200 k.p.h., leaving all other civil airliners far behind. Derived from a line of larger-dimensioned mechanical chronographs with strongly technical looks, Breitling's Chrono Cockpit is a compact instrument with trim, rounded lines. Its new, miniaturized selfwinding mechanical movement combines extreme accuracy and an extended power reserve. Impervious to the effects of water and air, its solid steel case sets off an 18K gold rotating bezel and a two-tone dial in the finest Breitling tradition.

Selfwinding mechanical chronograph with 1/5th second graduations.

30-minute and 12-hour totalizers.

Oversized calendar digits. Power reserve in excess of 42 hours.

Unidirectional ratcheted rotating bezel in 18K gold with steel rider tabs.

Case water-resistant to 100 m with glareproofed cambered sapphire crystal and screw-locked crown and back.

Steel case with 18K gold bezel. Also available in steel, with two-tone finish and 18K gold rider tabs or in solid 18K gold.

Available with three types of leather strap with either tang-type buckle or folding clasp, or else with a Pilot or Rouleaux bracelet.

AVAILABLE FROM SELECTED JEWELLERS THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

FOR YOUR NEAREST STOCKIST TELEPHONE 0171 637 5167

INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

Young offenders to get taste of life in the glasshouse

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondence

THIRTY-TWO young offenders are to be selected for a sentence of military discipline, including square-bashing and shoe-polishing, in the armed services' glasshouse. Forces staff will receive training to "sensitise" them to deal with civilians.

Details of the plan to send young criminals to join the 300 Army, Royal Navy and RAF offenders at the Colchester Military Corrective Training Centre in Essex will be announced on Wednesday by by Ann Widdecombe, the Prisons Minister, and Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister.

The Government has decided to push ahead with the one-year experiment from October, despite concern over the legal implications of placing civilian offenders under military law. The Home Office and Ministry of Defence have come up with a combination that will subject the offenders to a military regime under a civilian governor.

There will be no regular fraternising with service offenders, except when they share education classes and other ordered activities. "The aim is to keep them segregated, but not apart," one MoD source said. Eight four-man bedrooms are being prepared for the civilians, in a central block that was originally intended for female offenders from the services. They will go to another separated block.

The civilian offenders will have to wear military fatigues but not uniforms, and there will be no rank structures. They will be expected to keep their shoes polished and trousers pressed, although not necessarily to service standards.

The regime will include incentives for behaving well. The first phase of the glasshouse sentence will be the harshest, with no luxuries. Phase two will allow some television watching — but only in black and white — and restricted communal periods. Under the final phase, those who have behaved well can watch colour television and walk around the barrack blocks on their own.

The tri-service Colchester corrective training centre has a military commandant, currently Lieutenant Colonel Glen Grant. He will have a civilian counterpart. The staff overseeing the civilian offenders will be a mixture of military and civilian. The military element will consist of one officer and half-a-dozen sergeants.

Before being selected for the glasshouse, the young civilian offenders will be assessed to make sure they are psychologically suited for a military regime. Colchester is seen by the services as harsh but fair. Civilian offenders will have to make constructive use of their time, including education classes and farm work.

The experiment will be financed by the Prison Service. The Colchester centre was rebuilt in the 1980s and became the sole glasshouse for all three services last year. Its capacity is being increased from 212 to 325.

☐ The Prison Service is to open a boot camp for 60 young men aged 18-21 at Thorn Cross Young Offender Institution near Warrington in September. They will spend 26 weeks doing daily drill, learning skills such as literacy, personal hygiene, and finance, and working for charities.

THE REGIME

06.00	Reveille
06.30	Roll call
07.00	Breakfast
08.40	Parade, followed by ordered activities
13.00	Lunch
14.15	Parade, activities
16.45	Tea
18.30	Parade, activities
19.45	Supper
20.00	Lock-up, followed by final roll call
21.00	Lights out

Armed guards may patrol 'super jail'

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

ARMED guards would patrol the perimeter of Britain's first super-secure jail under proposals drawn up by the Prison Service.

Officials have also outlined plans to arm prison officers at a jail holding the country's most dangerous criminals with pepper-gas sprays. The plans will be outlined on Wednesday when the Prisons Board debates a report into a fortress-style prison that will cost about £55 million.

Sir David Ramsbotham, the new Chief Inspector of Prisons, has already said that arming prison staff would destroy the relationship between them and inmates.

The proposals have been put foward as a way of reducing the multimillion-pound costs of a such a jail. A senior prison service source said last night: "The service has come up with the idea of putting armed guards on the outside of the jail or providing pepper sprays to staff inside as a way of cutting costs. They think these measures would allow lower staffing levels inside the jail."

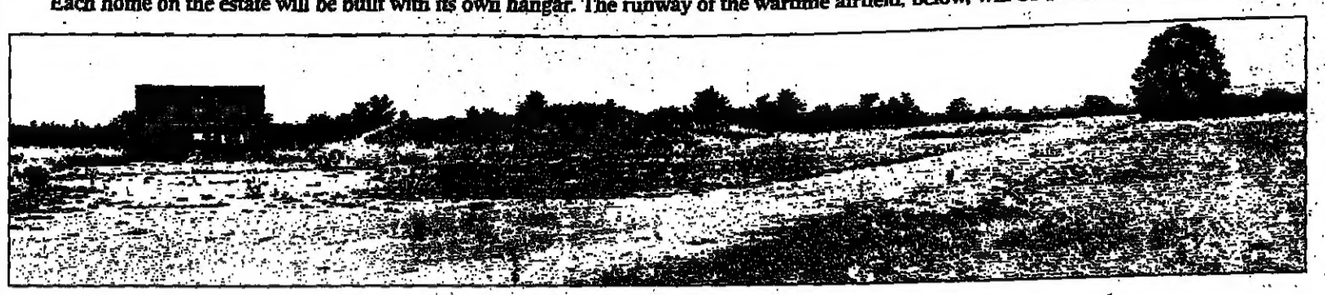
Sir John Learmont recommended a super-secure prison to hold 300 dangerous prisoners and another to take 200 psychotic and volatile inmates at a capital cost of £121 million in his report on prison security published last year.

The Prison Service set up a small team to consider the report. It is understood they favour building one super-secure jail to hold high-risk and volatile inmates.

☐ The number of women in prison has risen by 57 per cent in the past four years, almost double the rate for men, which rose by 29 per cent. Many of the 2,125 women prisoners in England and Wales are serving sentences for non-violent crimes and are first-time offenders, according to the Penal Affairs Consortium.

JULIAN HERBERT

Each home on the estate will be built with its own hangar. The runway of the wartime airfield, below, will be at the heart of the estate



Airpark offers departure from the des res

By Alexandra Williams

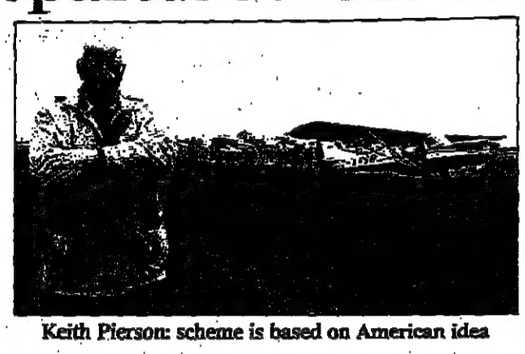
PARKING spaces for aircraft will be provided alongside homes on an executive housing estate approved by councillors in rural Somerset. The scheme will allow residents to fly directly from their homes to business meetings.

The estate will be at a former wartime airfield in Henstridge. Home-owners will pay £1,000 a year to use the 800-metre runway. Flying will be restricted to between 6am and 10pm.

The airpark idea came from the United States, where there are more than 500. The largest, Spruce Creek in Florida, has 900 homes costing from about £50,000 to £1.5 million. One-acre plots at Henstridge will cost £100,000 and families will pay from about £200,000 to have their home and hangar built. A similar scheme in Shropshire was dropped because of local objections.

The project has attracted interest from aerial photographers, engineers, accountants and aircraft dealers. There are 7,709 privately owned aircraft registered by the Civil Aviation Authority.

South Somerset District Council has approved the plans, subject to agreement on flight times, numbers and landscaping. The site owner, Kedgeworth, is awaiting a decision from John Gummer, the Environment Secretary. "The application is close to Mr Gummer's desk so a decision is imminent," a spokesman said. Kedgeworth, a family firm, bought the airfield ten years ago when more space was needed for its earthmoving business.



Keith Pierson: scheme is based on American idea

"Delays at Heathrow will be a thing of the past for these businessmen," Keith Pierson, of the company, said. "They will be able to leave their front door, step into their aircraft and be in the air within minutes. We are ready to start work and we are feeling confident. The noise survey was successful, it would create employment and an alternative means of travel which would have less environmental impact."

John Shaw, area planning manager for South Somerset District Council, said: "We are mindful to approve it. We argue that it conforms to the structure plan and that the community will benefit." Kedgeworth says 400 jobs may be created.

Reaction in neighbouring villages on the Somerset-Dorset border is divided. Henry Best, Somerset chairman of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said: "No one wants noise exactly, but we would sooner see development on derelict land than green fields. Any anxiety is fear of the unknown."

St George loses out to traffic

By Lin Jenkins

ENGLAND'S main celebration to mark St George's Day has been cancelled. Hundreds of cadets were to have paraded with a band in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Cenotaph in honour of those who died for thier country.

The ceremony would have meant closing Whitehall to traffic. Instead, only a handful of people will weave in and out of the buses and cars to place a wreath at the monument in the middle of the road after the Metropolitan Police decided that roadworks on Westminster Bridge prevented them from closing Whitehall.

Nearly 500 youngsters including sea, air and army cadets and the St John Ambulance drill squad were to have taken part in the ceremony. David Odell, general secretary of the Royal Society of St George, said: "As a society we are attempting to promote the Englishness of being English people. The ceremony was to preserve the memory of those who inspired us in the past and remind people of those who served the country well."

He said that the society lamented the lack of any formal marking of St George's Day. While the heritage industry, with its themed sites and interactive attractions, might remember the day, that amounted to "Disney history", Mr Odell said.

Abortions rose by 9% after Pill health scare

MORE than 800 extra abortions were carried out by the British Pregnancy Advisory Service in the wake of last year's scare over the safety of some contraceptive Pills.

Most of the 9.5 per cent rise between last December and February was believed to be a result of women stopping using the Pill because of the health alert. The BPAS said 41 per cent stopped taking the Pill immediately and 61 per cent did not finish their current course.

The figures were based on a survey of 28 of the charity's clinics shortly after the Committee on Safety of Medicines warned of greater risk of deep-vein thrombosis from the "third-generation" Pill. The BPAS performs about 18 per cent of legal abortions in England and Wales.

TEFL TEACHERS
FOR VIETNAM, LAOS, INDONESIA, NEPAL, MONGOLIA, PAKISTAN AND CAMBODIA

Teaching TEFL as a VSO volunteer is a once-in-a-lifetime experience – at any time in life. We need teachers with either:

• a TEFL qualification with over 4 years' good classroom experience or • a BA degree, TEFL qualification, and over 6 months' experience. Current opportunities include:

VIETNAM
Requests for volunteers to work in provincial Teachers Colleges with undergraduate trainee teachers and fellow teaching staff to upgrade communicative language skills, develop methodology and EFL materials. BA, TEFL & one year's experience.

LAOS
Various requests to teach English at vocational colleges and to local officials. Range of experience required.

INDONESIA
TEFL teachers, with a minimum of one year's experience, needed to teach methodology and lecture in EFL at tertiary level.

NEPAL
English Language Resource Centre Co-ordinators required in rural Nepal; experience of curriculum and materials development an advantage. Two years' teaching experience essential.

We also have requests for TEFL teachers in Mongolia, Pakistan and Cambodia, as well as secondary level English teachers and teacher trainers to work in over 20 countries.

As well as the appropriate qualifications and experience, it is also essential to have the right personal qualities. These include cultural sensitivity, commitment – and a sense of humour. You should also be aged between 20-70, without dependent children, able to spend up to two years overseas working for a modest living allowance, and have unrestricted right of re-entry into the UK.

More information on working as a VSO volunteer is available from: **VSO Enquiries Unit, 317 Putney Bridge Road, London SW15 2PN.**

VSO

VSO enables men and women to work alongside people in poorer countries in order to share skills, build capabilities and promote international understanding and action, in the pursuit of a more equitable world.

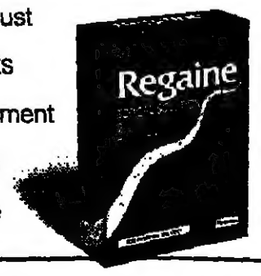
Charity no. 313757 TT

Thinning hair?
Don't trust an advertisement.
Trust your pharmacist.

Many products claim to check hair loss, but only one can prove it. Regaine* is a unique treatment developed by Upjohn, a leading medical company which has spent £1.4 billion on medical research in the last 5 years alone.

Independent clinical studies show that, applied twice daily, Regaine checks hair loss in 80% of people – with some even regrowing hair, after just 4 months' use. And results continued as long as treatment did. Only Regaine contains Minoxidil solution, the sole treatment clinically proven to check advancing baldness. Which is why doctors have been prescribing this treatment for seven years. You could start seeing results within months.

TESTS SHOW IT CAN HELP HAIR REGROWTH TOO
• Regaine checks hair loss in 4 out of 5 people.
• 2 out of 5 actually experienced regrowth.
• Results continued as long as treatment did.



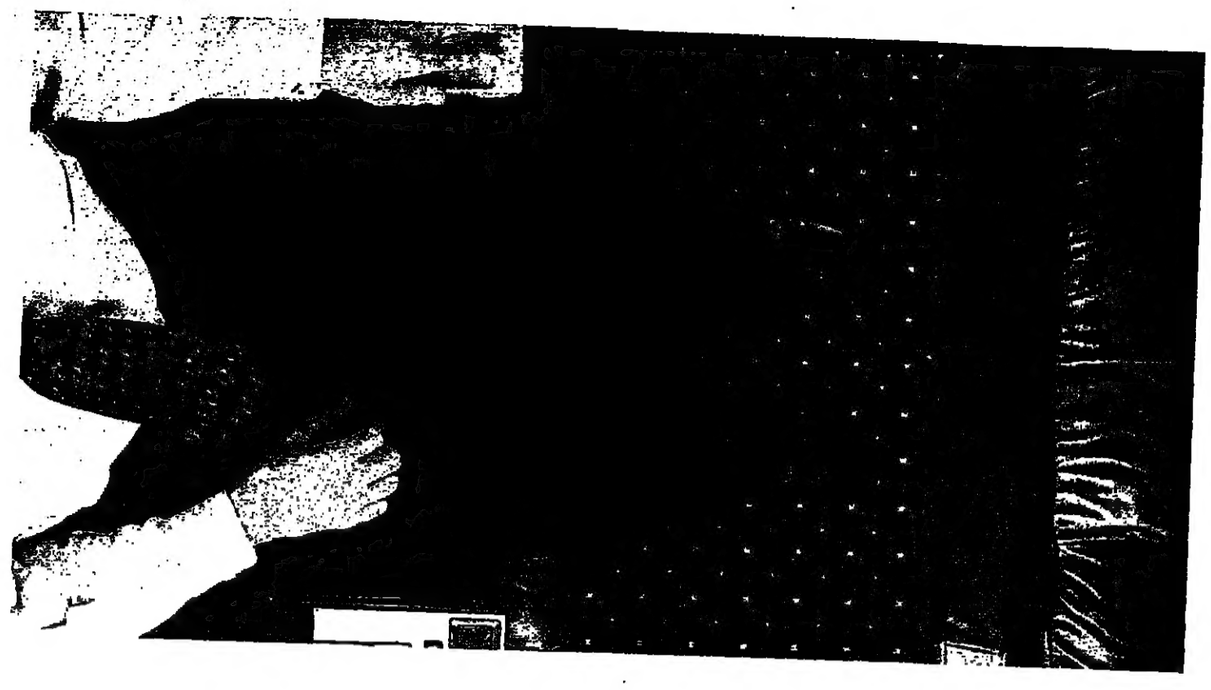
So if you want the serious treatment for thinning hair, discover Regaine: now available from your local pharmacist without a prescription.

REF: R3180UK

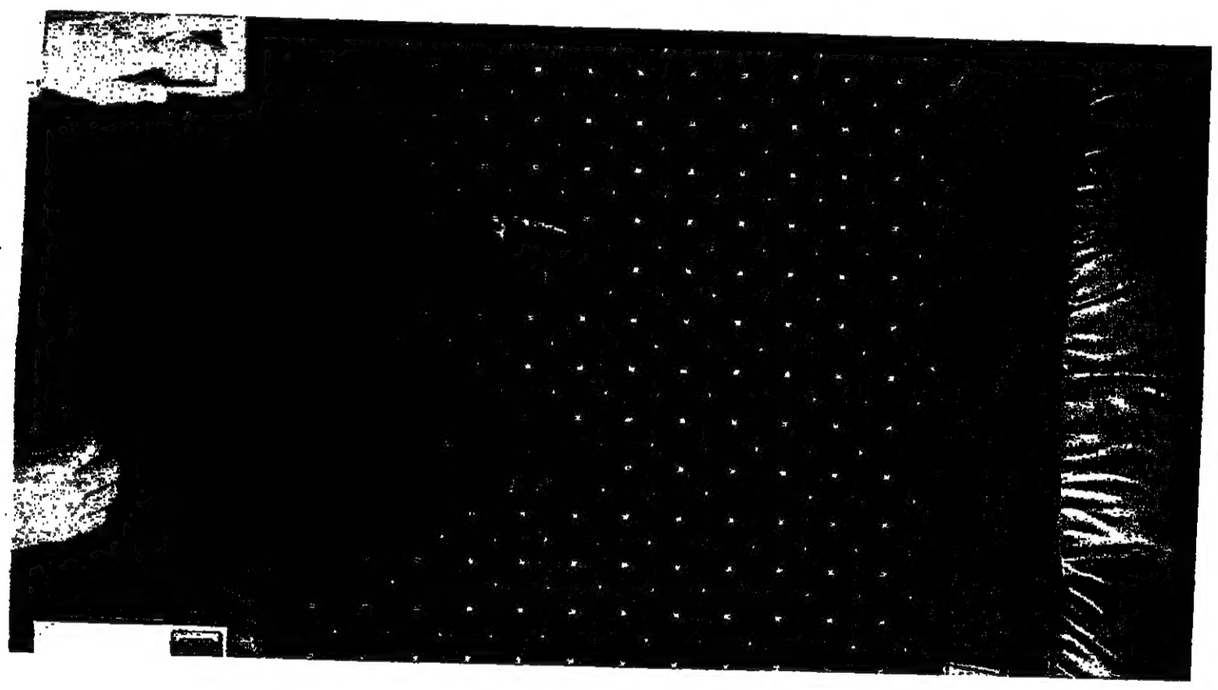
The only hair loss treatment ever proven to work.
Now available from your pharmacist

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE TO: CONSUMER HEALTHCARE, PHARMACIA & UPJOHN LTD, DAVY AVENUE, KNOWLHILL, MILTON KEYNES MK5 8PH

Contains Minoxidil *Trade mark Always read the label



(Before)



(After)

Introducing Enhanced Business Class from American Airlines.℠
75% more legroom.* 100% more comfort.

With spacious, redesigned seating that allows you more recline, personal Sony Video Walkman™ units and an award-winning menu, our Enhanced Business Class offers you more flexibility and control than any other airline. So the next time business takes you to any of our worldwide destinations, fly the airline that offers you more choice. American Airlines. For information or reservations, call your travel agent or American Airlines on 0181 572 5555 or 0345 789789 (outside London). Or visit the American Airlines web site at http://www.amrcorp.com/AA.

AmericanAirlines℠
Something special in the air.

*International 3-Class fleet average. International Business Class seat reconfiguration and personal video unit implementation will be completed by June 1996.
Sony and Video Walkman are trademarks of Sony. American Airlines is a service mark of American Airlines, Inc. ©1996 American Airlines, Inc. All rights reserved.

Shops locked in legal dispute over 'first and only' claim for delicacy that began as a cook's blunder

Bakewell pudding maker fights for just desserts

BY KATE ALDERSON

IT IS the food said to have sustained Jane Austen when she was writing *Pride and Prejudice* and is the subject currently sustaining much debate in Bakewell. The issue is, whence the pudding?

Bakewell pudding, commonly and mistakenly referred to as the Bakewell tart, has found its butter, almond, egg and sugar recipe at the centre of a legal dispute that may end up in Brussels. Baker is set against baker in the Derbyshire town, where 12,000 puddings are sold each week. Bloomers Original Bakewell Pudding Shop and The Old Original Bakewell Pudding Shop both claim that they alone make the "original" pudding from an authentic secret recipe.

Marian Wright, owner of Bloomers, put up signs last year claiming to be the "first and only" maker of original Bakewell pudding. The Old Original asked her to remove the words. She refused. Her rival has now taken her to court. The case was due to be heard in court three weeks ago but was postponed.

Oven-ready at Old Original Bakewell Pudding Shop

Kevin Gannon, manager of The Old Original Bakewell Pudding Shop, said: "She claims Bloomers to be the 'first and only'. It is not." His shop had a recipe from the 1860s. When asked if it mattered who had the original recipe, he paused and breathed deeply: "It matters to us."

Ms Wright bought Bloomers, along with its goodwill and what she claims to be the original pudding recipe, from the Bloomer family a year ago. She sells a wide range of foods as well as the pudding. The sign outside reads: "The first and only: Bloomers Original Bakewell Pudding. Established 1889. Connoisseurs Home Bakers." She said: "In my view I'm doing nothing wrong. Bloomers have had the original recipe in their family for four generations. The other shop has picked on the wrong lady."

Ms Wright has hired a barrister and also intends to get a European Commission ruling on the pudding. Brussels can authorise a "protected designation of origin notice", which would not stop others from making a pudding with another recipe, but could prevent them from calling it a Bakewell pudding.

The question of who, if anyone, has the original pudding recipe causes great debate in the town. It is agreed that the recipe dates back to the mid-1800s when a cook at the White Horse, now the Rutland Arms, made a mistake with her cooking and produced the Bakewell pudding. Customers at the Wheatsheaf pub, in the centre of Bakewell, demonstrated the heat of the conflict.

George Pearson, 55, a landscaper, was adamant about who had the original recipe. "I'm telling you that John Bloomer has the original recipe," he said, wagging his finger at a friend. "Bloomer is the only one. It came from the Rutland and ended up with Bloomers."

TIM SMITH

Marion Wright with her Bakewells, said to be cooked from the original recipe

Carl Holmes, 35, a former cook, shook his head: "I believe The Original Pudding Shop has the recipe, and only the cooks who make the pudding know what the secret ingredient is. To be honest, does it really matter? I don't even like Bakewell pudding."

Helen Lamb owns the Bakewell Pudding Parlour, which also makes the puddings. She does not claim to possess a paper copy of the original recipe, but employs a cook who used to work at The Old Original Pudding Shop: "He brought the recipe with him and we call our puddings 'traditional'. There's room for everyone to make puddings in this town. Let the customer choose."

And this is how Mrs Beeton made it

This is Mrs Beeton's original recipe for Bakewell Pudding, from her book *Modern Household Cookery* in 1861.

BAKEWELL PUDDING.

(Very Rich.)

Ingredients. — ¼lb of puff-paste, 5 eggs, 6oz of sugar, ¼lb of butter, 1oz of almods, jam.

Mode. — Cover a dish with thin paste, and put over this a layer of any kind of jam, ½ inch thick; put the yolks of 5 eggs into a basin with the white of 1, and beat these well; add the sifted sugar, the butter, which should be melted, and the almonds, which should be well pounded; beat all together until well mixed, then pour it into the dish over the jam, and bake for an hour in a moderate oven.

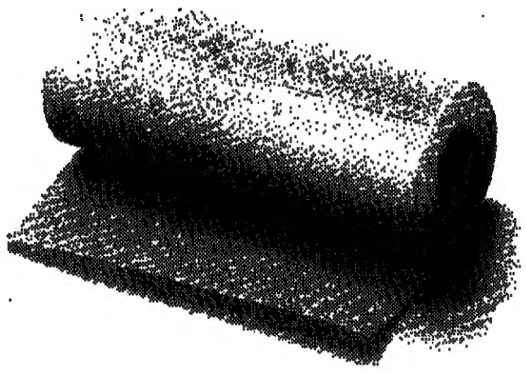
Time. — 1 hour.

Average cost, 1*s* 6*d*.

Sufficient for 4 or 5 persons.

Seasonable at any time.

How to cash a cheque.



When expecting a cheque in the post, some blind people ask the sender to attach it to a piece of textured paper, like kitchen roll, so that it is not confused with a compliment slip, or thrown away by mistake.

It's a simple solution to one of the frustrating problems that arise when blind people are sent information they cannot read. The Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) understands the indignity visually impaired people feel at having to rely on others to read out private and confidential information. That's why we campaign for blind people to have access to information in 'readable' forms. Many companies like banks and telephone networks now provide bank statements and phone bills in large print, braille and tape. But many day to day tasks require information which is usually produced in a form blind people find useless. RNIB will convert any printed items from bus timetables and washing instructions to knitting patterns and the recipe for soufflé. Even the sheet music to Händel's 'Messiah'. RNIB also has braille and tape libraries stocking literature ranging from Barbara Cartland to Karl Marx. RNIB's work is particularly important if you consider that many of the one million blind or partially sighted people in Britain live alone. Perhaps you know someone who suffers from poor sight. Someone who could benefit from the services we offer. Someone who may not realise that people are there to help them. For more details about RNIB call us on 0345 023040.

RNIB
challenging blindness

Royal National Institute for the Blind
Charity Registration Number 226227

SAS men guard rare birds' eggs

BY TIM JONES

A DETACHMENT of SAS troops have dug themselves into an ancient oak forest in mid-Wales to protect one of Britain's rarest birds of prey from egg collectors.

Equipped with security and surveillance devices, the soldiers are keeping a day-and-night watch on red kites, which have just begun their mating season.

Once common throughout the land, red kites — which have a 5ft wingspan — became extinct in England and Scotland in 1880 but managed to cling on in the depths of Wales. Although they are making a comeback, the birds are still threatened and their eggs highly sought by illegal collectors prepared to take extreme risks to attain them.

The SAS men are guarding the sites as part of their training, using infra-red security devices developed during the Gulf War. They are equipped with night-vision sights and have surrounded the nesting trees with pressure pads that set off alarms if anyone steps on them.

If they apprehend any poacher, they will establish their identities and pass on details to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Iolo Williams of the RSPB said: "It is fantastic to know the kites have such protection. It frees our officers for other work."

Mr Williams that, said despite maximum fines of £5,000 for each rare egg stolen, the law was not tough enough. "The law must be changed to enable collectors to be given community service sentences and stiffer penalties.

"The extraordinary thing is that the eggs have no value on the open market. The collectors' behaviour appears to be one of total obsession. They appear to gain a sense of security by having as complete a collection as possible."

The kite: comeback

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

Why we exist

Richard Dawkins

RICHARD DAWKINS, the controversial Oxford biologist, will argue at a *Times / Dillons* forum that Darwin has the answers to all Nature's complexities. The forum, to be held on Thursday, April 25, marks the publication of Professor Dawkins's latest book, *Climbing Mount Improbable* (Viking, £20). He will discuss the difference between accident and design in Nature and will show how DNA, the molecule of life, has progressed through geological time to create our rich variety of plant and animal life.

Chaired by Sir John Maddox, the former editor of *Nature*, the forum will be held at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10 (concessions £7.50), which include £3 off the price of Professor Dawkins's book, are available by phoning 0171-915 6613, by faxing the coupon below on 0171-915 6611, or by sending the coupon and your remittance to Dillons, 82 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EQ, where tickets can also be purchased.

Please send me ..... ticket(s) at £10 each (concessions £7.50) for the Richard Dawkins Forum at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1, on Thursday, April 25

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

..... POSTCODE .....

DAYTIME PHONE No .....

I enclose my cheque made payable to Dillons the Bookstore

Value £ ..... Number .....

(Please write your name and address on the back of the cheque)

Or, please debit my Credit / Debit Dillons / Hatchards account card number

Expiry date ...../.....

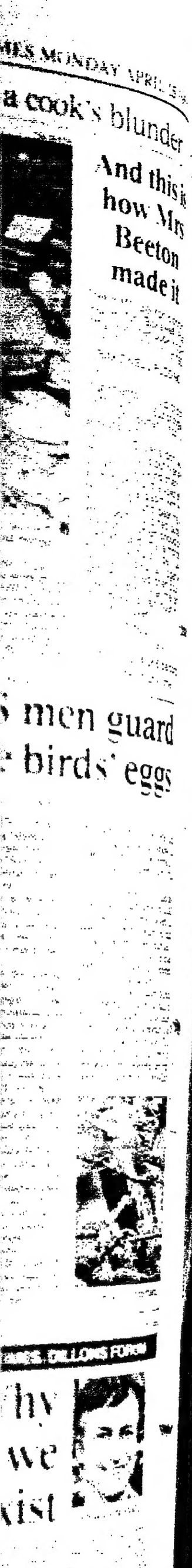
Print name .....

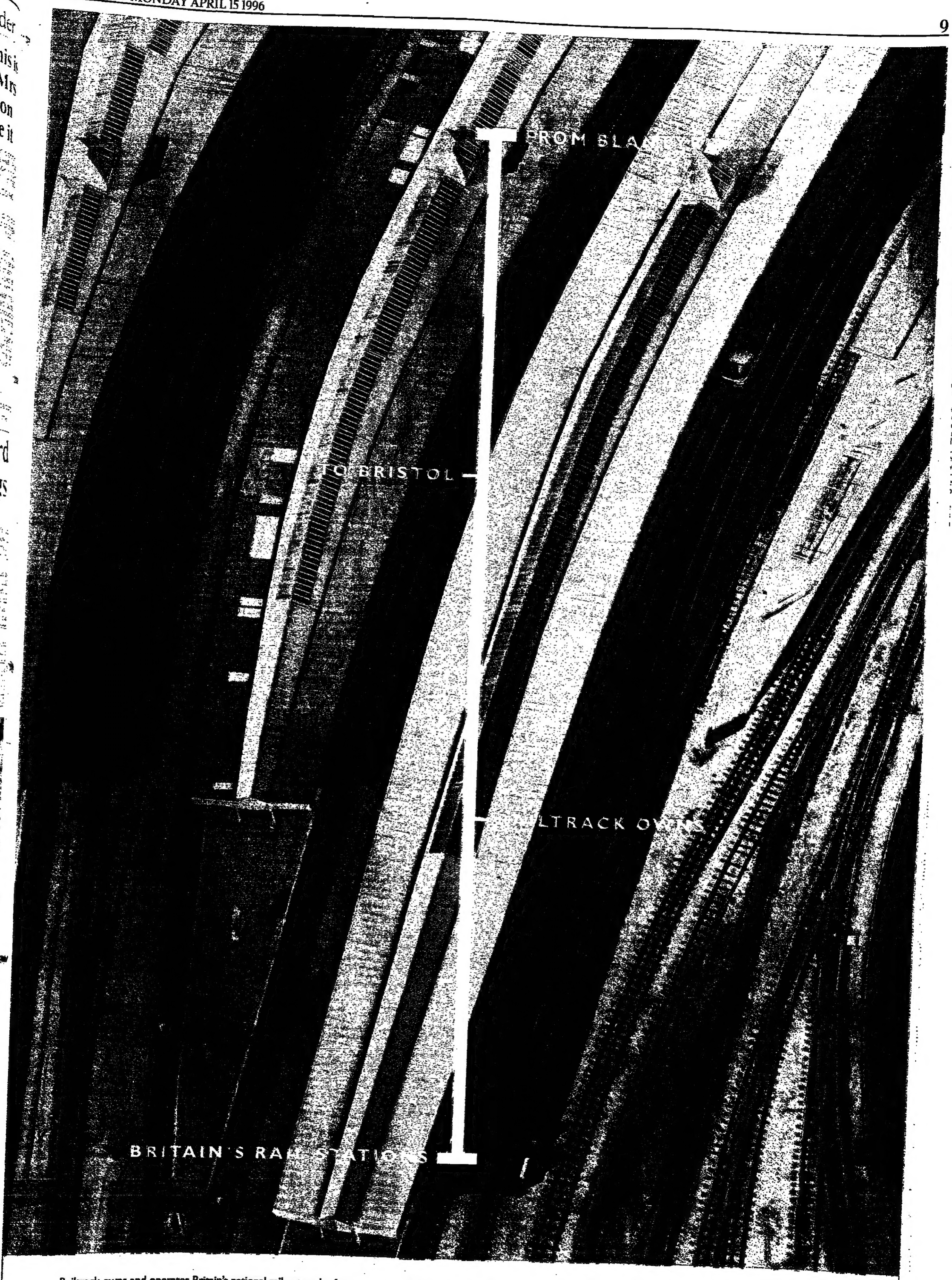
Signature .....

Please post coupon and remittance to:
The Times / Dillons Richard Dawkins Forum
Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1E 6EQ
Tel: 0171-915 6613. Fax: 0171-580 7680

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Ticket number ..... Date sent .....





Railtrack owns and operates Britain's national rail network of some 10,000 route miles of track, around 40,000 tunnels, viaducts and bridges, and signalling. It also owns some 2,500 stations. And the Government's sale of shares is underway. If you register for information now, you could be eligible for bonus shares or a discount on the final instalment. You simply need to call one of the many banks, building societies, stockbrokers or other financial intermediaries offering a Share Shop service. Look for the list with telephone numbers appearing in the national press. Once you have registered, your Share Shop will send you further information about Railtrack and the Offer.

RAILTRACK
Share Offer
REGISTER AT A SHARE SHOP

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND APPROVED BY SBC WARBURG, A DIVISION OF SWISS BANK CORPORATION, REGULATED IN THE UK BY SFA. THE VALUE OF SHARES CAN FLUCTUATE. ANY APPLICATION FOR SHARES SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PROSPECTUS ALONE. FOR ADVICE CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL ADVISER. THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS NOT INTENDED TO IMPLY THAT RAILTRACK OWNS OR OPERATES EVERY RAIL STATION IN BRITAIN.

'Israel started this. Shimon Peres is using the flesh and blood of our people to win his election'

Attacks drive refugees into Hezbollah's arms

***Michael Theodoulou** in Sidon joins the terrified and angry refugees forced north by the Israeli ultimatum to leave their homes in Tyre*

GROUPS of Lebanese refugees, some livid with rage, others numb and dazed, sat on the grass outside Sidon's chaotic town hall listening to a tinny radio detailing the "criminal attacks of the evil Zionists" on the towns and villages they had abandoned in fear a few hours earlier.

Here no one blamed Hezbollah for their misery. Israel's latest blitz was once again in danger of serving only to glorify Hezbollah as the sole organisation willing and able to challenge the region's superpower.

"When the Israelis fire rockets on our children, we must respond," said Khaled Hussein, whose niece, Huda, ten, was one of four girls killed when an Israeli helicopter fired a rocket into an ambulance crammed with refugees on Saturday. "It was clearly marked as a village ambulance," he said, speaking softly, still in shock. "The bodies are in Tyre hospital and we cannot bury them because the Israelis are attacking the city."

Photographs of the bodies of the four children and two women, carried on the front pages of Lebanese newspapers and broadcast on local television, caused a deep sense of revulsion and outrage.

Nimr Shour, 58, a labourer from Tyre, his grey-stubbled jaw quivering with anger, said: "It is a massacre." Four children clutched at his shabby jacket. "What is their future? We have nothing to eat and nowhere to go," he said, clutching at a set of worry beads. "The only people who do not like Hezbollah now are Britain and America."

The fourth consecutive day of Israeli air raids spawned another exodus of refugees after Israel gave the 200,000 inhabitants of the ancient port city of Tyre an ultimatum to leave their homes. A similar number had already fled other towns and villages across a broad swath of southern Lebanon.

The coastal road north of Tyre was a swollen river of refugees. Many fled within minutes of last night's Israeli warning of renewed attacks. Buses, pick-up trucks and battered Mercedes taxis overflowed with people and their belongings. Groups of Lebanese Army soldiers manned anti-aircraft guns along the road.

Inside Sidon's town hall, where the local authorities were arranging shelter for more refugees in schools and mosques, Bilal Qasim Salih, six, lay expressionless on a foam mattress, his right arm in a sling. It was broken in two places by shrapnel from an Israeli helicopter attack on Saturday.

His mother, Hanieh, 32, spoke of an uncertain future. "Where is safe? Yesterday we thought Tyre was. Today we think it is Sidon. Is Beirut even safe?"

Israel promptly answered her question with an air raid on a power station seven miles southeast of the capital, cutting electricity to parts of the city which echoed throughout the day with the sound of anti-aircraft fire. More air raids targeted the Shia southern suburbs of the city.

The second wave of air strikes on Beirut in less than a week was another blow to the Lebanese Government, which has been spending millions of pounds rebuilding the capital shattered by 15 years of civil war that ended in 1990.

Until last week Beirut had been cocooned from the war of attrition in the south. Now its revival as the Middle East's cultural and financial centre is imperilled and the people despondent. Foreign investment is threatened and the authorities are once again burdened with a humanitarian crisis.

The Government, dismayed by Washington's fulsome support of Israel and a lack of effective Arab backing, feels powerless to halt the worsening cycle of violence. "Alone, Lebanon faces the indifference of the world," a Lebanese newspaper commented.

Damascus and Beirut say Hezbollah has every right to fight Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon, although Rafiq Hariri, the Prime Minister, says that if Israel withdraws he will guarantee the security of its northern border.

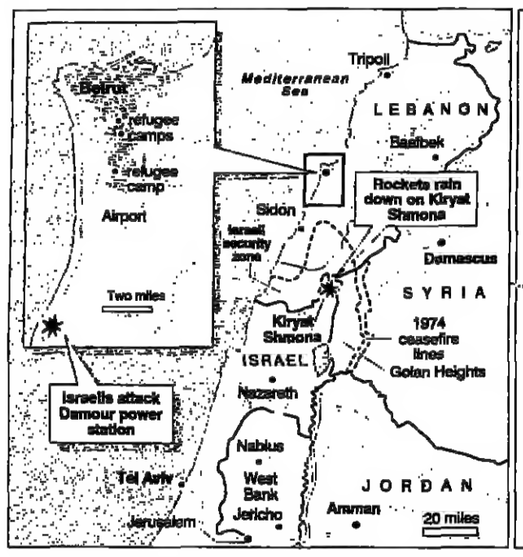
The message from Hezbollah, riding a crest of popularity, was bellicose and uncompromising. It vowed to unleash its "human bomb battalions" and said it would keep lobbing Katyusha rockets across the border.

At a Hezbollah press office in Beirut's southern slums, guarded by a bearded fighter wearing an American helmet and carrying an M16 assault rifle, a smooth young spokesman for the organisation, said: "[Shimon] Peres [Israel's Prime Minister] is using the flesh and blood of our people to win his election."

Speaking fluent English and often pausing to take calls on his mobile telephone, he added: "Israel started this cycle of violence and Israel must be the first to end it.

"We are not fighting because we want to fight. We have no choice: they are occupying our land and killing our people. Do not say because we are weaker we should give in. Israel is not so strong. Look at the Vietnamese. Did they stop because America was stronger?"

Leading article, page 19



Katyusha rocket system: Hezbollah fighters launched random salvoes of rockets from points across southern Lebanon hitting Kiryat Shmona and other targets

Bell AH-1 Cobra: the American-built helicopter gunship has been used to attack villages in Lebanon including the weekend incident when an ambulance was hit

Smoke rises from the south Lebanon town of Nabatiyeh, which was hit twice by Israeli jets yesterday

Militants rain rockets on Galilee ghost town

FROM ROSS DUNN IN KIRYAT SHMONA

BORDER BARRAGE

SOLDIERS and a lone journalist were the only passengers on the last bus yesterday heading for towns along Israel's northern border with Lebanon.

More than half of the 22,000 residents have deserted the Galilee town of Kiryat Shmona, which was hit three times yesterday by rockets fired by Hezbollah guerrillas from southern Lebanon.

The town is effectively under Israeli military rule and shortly before 6pm loudspeakers announced that all remaining residents should head for bomb shelters. When the announcement ceased an eerie silence descended over the town, where only a couple of cafés remain open for the patronage of Israeli soldiers.

Aaron Levin, originally from California, has lived in the town for 17 years. He said a loud "whooshing" noise was the only sure way of detecting another rocket attack. "If you can hear it in time, it has a whoosh to it and I run to the nearest place for shelter," he said. As for the three attacks yesterday, he said they did not disturb the tranquillity in any of the streets where he had strolled during the day.

"I didn't even hear them," he said. A community worker, he visited three bomb shelters last night to distribute food and found them all empty.

Asked how he felt when hearing of the news that Israeli missiles had struck an ambulance in south Lebanon, killing innocent women and children, Mr Levin replied: "It is sad that this happens. Sometimes it is fate ... and sometimes it is staged."

Mr Levin said Hezbollah had provoked the Israeli military campaign by its own attacks on towns such as Kiryat Shmona. He said the Islamic fundamentalist organisation was attempting to derail the peace process.

Mr David Rosenbaum, a bank worker, said he was unmoved by the news that the Israeli strikes had killed innocent civilians in Lebanon including those travelling inside an ambulance. "We told the people in every possible communication to evacuate South Lebanon," he said. "The responsibility is in their own hands."

Mr Rosenbaum was one of only two staff members at the branch yesterday which was ordered closed by the military authorities. His duties now are to ensure that the automatic teller machine is full. Asked whether he was scared by renewed threats by Hezbollah, Mr Rosenbaum replied: "I was born in Israel. I am used to this kind of living."

☐ **Amman:** Leila Khaled, who hijacked an American airliner in 1969, was barred by Israel from entering the West Bank. She had planned to attend a debate on ending the Palestine National Council's call for the destruction of the Jewish state. *(Reuter)*

Security blackout on 'British bomber'

BY MICHAEL DYNES

ISRAEL imposed an indefinite ban yesterday on the publication of details about the identity of a bomb-maker with a British passport who appears to have blown himself up during an explosion in his Jerusalem hotel on Friday.

A Jerusalem magistrates' court issued the order prohibiting the disclosure of any

TERRORISM

details about the investigation concerning the injured man, his name, or the documents found in his possession.

A British passport issued in the name of Andrew Newman was found among the effects of the bomber. The authorities are still trying to establish whether the suspect is the passport's legitimate owner.

One rumour in Israeli diplomatic circles last night was that the bomber may be a British Jew who was intent on blowing up the Muslim Holy Places, including the Al Aqsa mosque. The bomber was seriously injured when the device he was thought to be making exploded in the Hotel Lawrence, a down-market hotel in east Jerusalem.

Peres's military options limited by ties with US

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

ISRAEL'S military options in fighting its old enemy, the Hezbollah terrorist organisation in Lebanon, are limited unless it is prepared to risk damaging the Middle East peace process and its strategic relationship with the US.

There are serious political implications whenever Israel takes military action against its neighbours. However, any further encroachment on Lebanese sovereign territory could begin to unravel the web of peace deals which in recent years have helped to create a more stable region.

TACTICS

Two potential military options would seem both unrealistic and politically dangerous. The first would be a full-scale invasion of Lebanon, a repeat of Operation Peace in Galilee in 1982. The second would be an attempt to extend the security zone established by the Israelis in southern Lebanon in 1985 to provide security for Israel's northern border.

A full invasion would be militarily and politically disastrous. It is inconceivable that Washington — upon whose political support and military equipment Israel relies — would allow another invasion of Lebanon. The repercussions would be damaging for President Clinton, who has devoted much of his foreign policy efforts towards building a more comprehensive Middle East peace strategy.

An invasion would stretch Israel militarily, and the risks would be even greater than in 1982 because Israeli forces would find themselves confronting a strong Syrian military presence in Lebanon, currently standing at about 30,000 troops.

Israel cannot contemplate a military conflict with Syria at a time when it is hoping to complete a comprehensive Middle East peace package by signing an agreement with the Syrians. Already, Israeli Apache helicopters armed with Hellfire missiles have "inadvertently" hit a Syrian anti-aircraft battery.

Extending the security zone in southern Lebanon would raise similar political objections. The zone which runs from 7-12 miles wide east to west across Israel's northern border was set up to try to prevent Palestine Liberation Organisation units from launching Katyusha rocket attacks on kibbutz communities in the area.

The zone is patrolled by the Israeli-trained and equipped South Lebanese Army, but since the zone was set up, the proxy Israeli force has failed to stop attacks by Hezbollah, who have replaced the PLO in threatening Israel's northern border. Francis Tusa, a Middle East expert, said it would be perfectly feasible militarily for Israel to extend the security zone, but, again, Washington and Israel's peace treaty partners, Egypt and Jordan, would object.

The third option, an operation to clear out all Hezbollah units from southern Lebanon, appears to be the only realistic one for Israel. But even this military venture can only be shortlived, for fear of irreparably damaging relations in the whole region.

It may be in the political interests of Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, to demonstrate a hawkish approach in the lead-up to next month's general election, but a prolonged "sweep and clear" operation could have the same damaging consequences in the region.

A cheaper mortgage, no legal fees and 20% off your buildings insurance when you transfer to Direct Line.

- Transferring to Direct Line can save you £50 every month on your mortgage.
- Phone before 30th April and transfer using our solicitors package and we'll pay your legal fees.
- We'll give you a free valuation.
- We also guarantee to save you 20% if you transfer your buildings cover from your existing lender.
- Mortgages are available for up to 85% of the property valuation or purchase price, whichever is lower.

Call now. We're waiting to do a great deal for you.

*Typical Mortgage of £80,000 repayable over 25 years (300 monthly payments).

Lender	APR (Variable)	Monthly Repayments (after tax relief)	Monthly saving with Direct Line	*Total Payable
HALIFAX	7.2%	£557.95	£52.47	£167,385
ABBEY NATIONAL	7.6%	£557.00	£51.52	£167,106
WOOLWICH	7.5%	£558.70	£53.22	£167,610
DIRECT LINE	6.4%	£505.48	–	£151,644

APRs based on Standard Variable Rate Repayment mortgages, correct at 1st April 1996 (Abbey National rates for existing customers applicable from 1st May 1996). MIRAS has been calculated under current tax legislation which may alter.

DIRECT LINE MORTGAGES

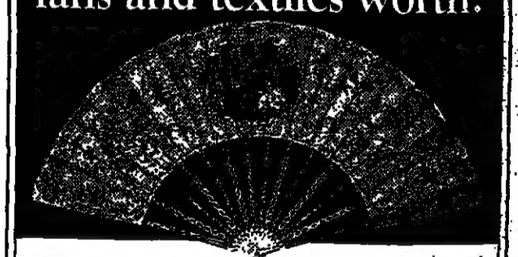
0181 649 9099 LONDON | 0161 831 9099 MANCHESTER | 0141 221 9099 GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday. Please quote ref. TT27

Direct Line Financial Services Limited, 250 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5SH. Direct Line and the red telephone on wheels are the trade marks of Direct Line Insurance plc and used with the permission of Direct Line Insurance plc. Direct Line mortgages from £20,000 to £150,000 are available for up to 85% of the property valuation or purchase price, whichever is the lower. Applicants must be aged 18 to 62 and Direct Line Financial Services Limited reserves the right to decline any application. Life assurance to cover the amount of the loan and security in the form of a first legal charge (Standard Security – Scotland) over the property will be required. The property must be fully insured for the duration of the loan. All rates quoted are for standard variable rate mortgages. The standard valuation fee will be refunded to the borrower once the mortgage is set up (for the example quoted the fee would be £125). Direct Line will pay the legal fees only where the mortgage on the borrower's existing home is transferred using Direct Line's special arrangements for legal fees. Written quotations are available on request. Some mortgages may require payment of a fee to the existing lender when being transferred. *The guaranteed insurance saving only applies if your current insurance is arranged by your lender and is subject to our normal underwriting criteria and corresponding levels of cover. For your added security all telephone calls will be recorded and the recording kept secure.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

How much are your fans and textiles worth?



Demand is high just now for 18th century English and French fans, according to our annual forecast of auction market trends. Indian and Persian shawls and 19th century Chinese robes are also very popular.

Is now the time to sell?
Keen bidding from collectors and international buyers ensures that best prices are achieved at Phillips specialist auctions. For a free auction valuation of your fans or textiles, or indeed any antiques or fine art, a telephone call at local rates will put you in touch with the appropriate Phillips specialist.

Phone Phillips *First*
0345 573103 9am to 5pm Mon - Fri

Or post the coupon, preferably with a photograph, to: Nicola Jeffrey, Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS

Description of items .....
Your name .....
Address .....
Postcode ..... Tel .....

The great London auction house with a saleroom near you

Phillips INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

Phillips on the Internet: http://www.phillips-auctions.com

FOUNDED 1796

Zoë Wanamaker
Maria Aitken
Robin Ellis
Sylvia
A romantic comedy by A.R. Gurney
Directed by Michael Blakemore
From 9 May
APOLLO THEATRE
SHAFTESBURY AVENUE W1
0171 494 5070

Clinton looks for electoral pay-off from world tour

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton left Washington last night for a week-long trip that will take him round the world and, aides hope, boost his stature at home before November's presidential election.

Mr Clinton will visit South Korea and Japan, where he will emphasise America's commitment to the region's security in the face of recent Chinese and North Korean threats, and Russia, where he will seek subtly to enhance President Yeltsin's re-election prospects while attending an international summit on the control of nuclear materials.

The President "will confront some of the oldest and newest challenges to the security of our nation, from the last unresolved problem of the Cold War — stability on the Korean peninsula — to one of the most urgent new threats we face, nuclear smuggling", Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, said.

In the meantime, Bob Dole, Mr Clinton's Republican opponent in November, has postponed a speech on Asia next Monday because he cannot decide what to say. He and fellow Republicans differ on whether to emphasise China's poor human rights record, thus making it harder to renew China's preferential trading status. Mr Dole has supported Taiwanese membership of the United Nations, but some of his political advisers are warning him against an open break with America's long-standing "One China" policy.

Today Mr Clinton will meet President Kim Young Sam of South Korea on Cheju Do island. This short stop was added to the itinerary only recently and the aim is to demonstrate American support for South Korea in the light of this month's North Korean incursions into the demilitarised zone separating the two Koreas.

In yesterday's *Washington Post*, William Perry, the Defence Secretary, threatened nuclear retaliation if Pyongyang ever used chemical weapons against South Korea.

Tomorrow Mr Clinton begins the state visit to Japan he postponed last November because of the American budget crisis. He will seek to strengthen a crucial US-Japanese security alliance threatened by growing resentment of the 47,000 American servicemen based in Japan. That resentment reached boiling point last September after three US servicemen raped a 12-year-old Okinawa girl.

On Friday, America announced the closure of a US air force base in Okinawa. Mr Clinton is expected to announce other concessions, including a further consolidation of American military bases, while emphasising in a speech to the Japanese parliament and during a visit to a US aircraft carrier that the 100,000 American troops in East Asia are there to stay.

For once, because it is an election year, Mr Clinton will be happy to downplay the trade conflicts that have long bedevilled American-Japanese relations.

He will visit a Tokyo Chrysler dealership to show how his Administration has begun opening up the Japanese car market, but will play down continuing disputes over Japanese barriers to American photographic film, semi-conductors and insurance.

Tokyo offer on Korea

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

THE Japanese Government is likely to offer civilian airports and harbours to help American forces during any crisis in Korea when President Clinton meets Ryutaro Hashimoto tomorrow.

A senior conservative politician told *The Times* that the Government is likely to reinterpret the constitution in such a way that Japan can also help with logistic support such as transport and fuel.

Recent tensions in the Taiwan Strait and the Korean peninsula have brought home to the Japanese the importance of strengthening the alliance and made them more receptive to American pressure to share the defence burden.

With the end of the Cold War the alliance is no longer aimed at deterring the Soviet Union. But as the Pentagon confirmed in a study last year, bases in Japan are vital to America's forward deployment strategy, which allows a quick response to conflicts in the region stretching from East Asia to the Gulf. It described the relationship with Japan as the "linchpin" of America's security policy in Asia.

A fashionable place to be

Cindy Crawford, the American supermodel, attends an Easter service in Yelokhovsky Cathedral, Moscow, where appearing in church is fashionable with politicians (Richard Beeston writes). President Yeltsin yesterday took his re-election campaign to the half-built Cathedral of Christ the Saviour and received the blessing of Patriarch Aleksi II, head of the Orthodox Church. The cathedral, which was destroyed by Stalin, stands as a reminder of communist brutality and the votes of the faithful could be crucial for the Russian leader in the race for the Kremlin.

Shot mugger sues vigilante for $50m damages

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK is again debating the actions of a white man who defended himself against four young black toughs by producing a gun and riddling them with bullets.

In 1987 Bernhard Goetz, the "subway vigilante", was acquitted of criminal assault, but this week a Bronx court will resume a civil action brought by one of the youths who menaced him for money. They approached him on a subway train one December night in 1984 and demanded $5 (£3.30). This time the amount is ten million times bigger: Darrell Cabey, crippled by Mr Goetz's gunburst, is suing for $50 million in damages.

In the 1987 trial the gangly Mr Goetz, an electrician, exercised his right to remain silent. This time, to the dismay of his supporters, he has had to speak at length. Ron Kuby, Mr Cabey's lawyer, has followed the example of Johnnie Cochrane, O.J. Simpson's defence lawyer, and has played the race card.

Mr Goetz, speaking in a steady manner, said that he was "set off" by the smile and shiny eyes of one of the youths. The jury of blacks and Hispanics heard him confirm that he once said that the "only way to clean up these streets is to get rid of the niggers and the spics". That allowed Mr Kuby to say later, in front of the press, that "this guy comes across as a real Nazi".

With the trial being televised live nationally, Mr Kuby also succeeded in getting Mr Goetz to boast that, after shooting Mr Cabey for the first time, he said "you don't look too bad — here's another" before pulling the trigger a second time.

"I was trying to get as many of them as I could," said Mr Goetz, whose habit of leaning back in his chair after speaking into the microphone accentuated the impression of self-satisfaction. With his pinched face, wire-framed spectacles and white, open-necked shirt, he came across as a cold man.

Mr Goetz described the rush of emotions he felt on firing the bullets, and said that "the world would be a better place" if undesirables were killed. Mr Kuby then had Mr Goetz agree that he considered gouging out one of the youths' eyes with his keys after the attack. "I could have," Mr Goetz said. "It was a thought that crossed my mind."

The right wing has long held Mr Goetz as a man to admire, but the manner of his delivery has made him a less potent symbol for middle-class fear in an uncertain world. He said that he used hollow bullets to cause as much damage as possible and smirked when he recounted a previous time he pulled his gun on a would-be mugger. The man, who had previously been full of menace, "turned grey and his legs buckled".

It will be up to Mr Goetz's counsel to try to present a more sympathetic image.

Woman who says Mike Tyson bit her fears 'death threats'

BY QUENTIN LETTS

CHICAGO police hope to interview today a beautician who claims that she was bitten on the face by Mike Tyson, the boxer.

LaDonna August, 25, a divorcée, has so far proved reluctant to tell investigators her side of the sexual assault complaint she made last week. Mr Tyson, 30, met her in a Chicago nightclub and, she says, sank his teeth into her cheek after they kissed. He denies the allegation.

Paul Jenkins, a police official, said yesterday: "The investigation continues. We have had no opportunity yet to talk to the alleged victim. The indications are that she will be available tomorrow." Mrs August's lawyer said that her failure to attend a planned meeting with the police was caused by her fear of attack.

"She has had death threats," Jerry Peteet said. "One of her concerns is that she does not want someone to hurt her child." Mr Peteet said she was having trouble sleeping, such was her disquiet.

Her failure to meet the police has led to suggestions that Mrs August regrets making her complaint. She and Mr Tyson met at the Clique, a slinky Chicago night club. She claims that he summoned her after seeing her on the dance floor. Mr Tyson's friends say that nothing untoward happened and have painted Mrs August as an opportunist who was keen to meet the celebrated boxer.

Mrs August has not been helped by her "friends". One, Tammy Battie, said last week that she went to the club hoping to meet Mr Tyson. Another, Lillian Sampson, said Mrs August was "all for the money — she is a bitch if there ever was one". Melvin August, Mrs August's former father-in-law, said she was a gold-digger who left his son "once the money was gone".

Now free calls and one second billing.

PIONEER

GSM MODEL PCC-D500.

- 100 name/number memory
- 60 mins talk-time
- 11 hrs standby-time
- Complete with super-slim Nicad battery and fast travel charger
- Weight approx 195g

VODAFONE PERSONALWORLD	
Connection	£35.25 (£30+VAT)
Monthly Rental	£17.63 (£15+VAT)
Peak Rate Calls Off Vodafone	35.25p per min (30p+VAT)
Off Peak Calls	11.75p per min (10p+VAT)

Personal/World peak times are 8.00-20.00 Mon to Fri. Mandatory itemised billing will be charged at £1.77 inc VAT per month. Line rental (debited monthly in advance) and airtime charges will be debited to your nominated credit/charge or Delta card. Calls charged in 1 second units.

FREE IN-CAR ADAPTOR/CHARGER
FREE LEATHER CASE
TOGETHER WORTH OVER £50

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND
Your phone is covered by our 14 days no quibble money back promise.

FREE CALLS 50 MINUTES PER MONTH IN APRIL, MAY & JUNE

- ONE SECOND BILLING - you only pay for the airtime you use
- FREE ACCESSORIES - in-car adaptor/charger and leather case, together worth over £50
- BEST COVERAGE - with digital call clarity and security

LIMITED OFFER £9.99 INC. VAT

Cellphones direct

ORDER NOW WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

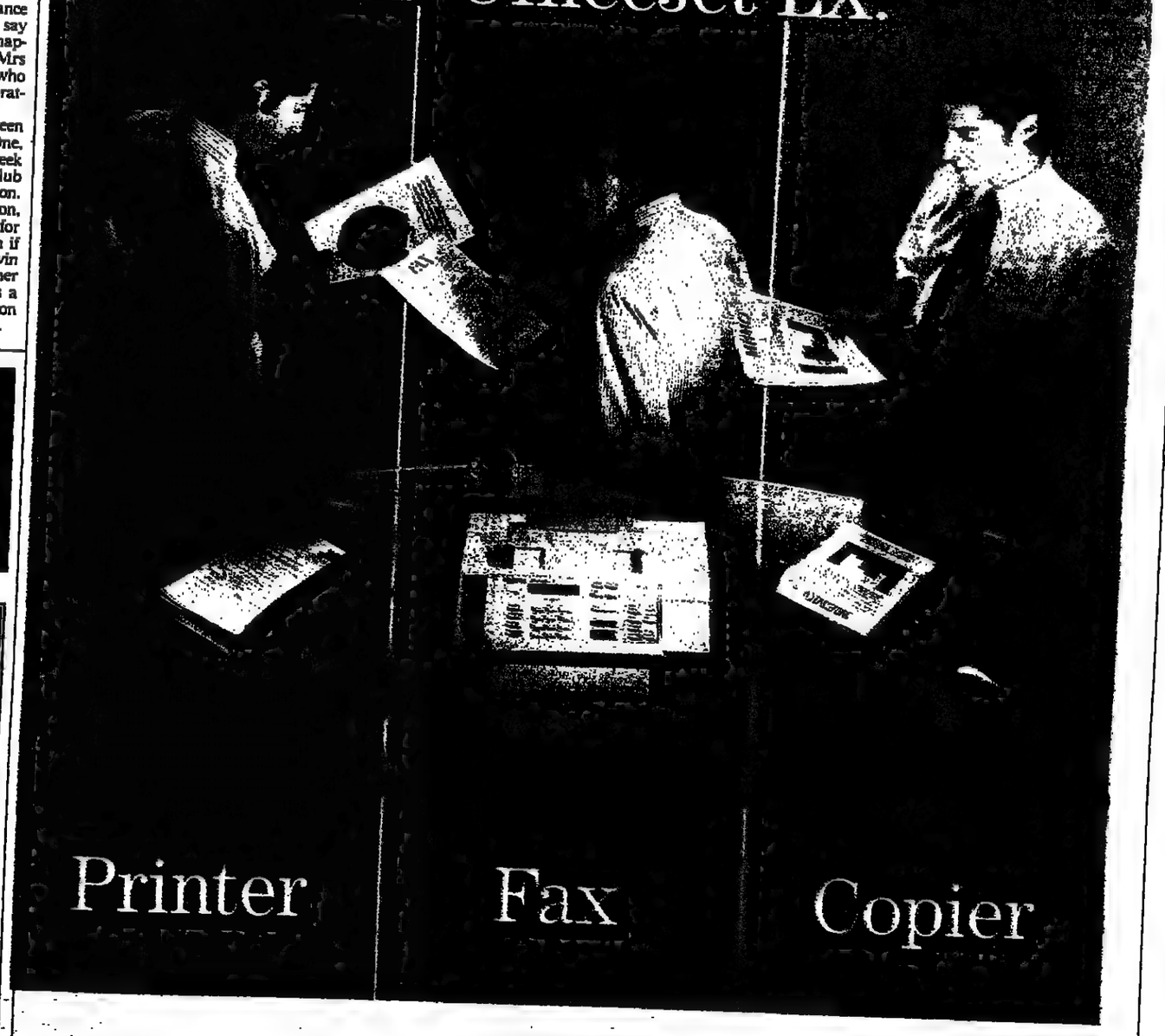
FREEPHONE 0500 000 888

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS WEEKENDS

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT HANDY WHEN YOU CALL, AND QUOTE REF 3673. (SORRY WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT SWITCH CARDS)

Offer subject to status and a standard airtime contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd, 185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4LN. Full written details and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 2995222.

Be in three places at once. HP OfficeJet LX.



The new HP OfficeJet LX is designed to save you time, money and space. It's an HP DeskJet printer, plain paper fax and copier all in one. Even the smallest office can now have all the equipment you need for today's business saving you time and money by being able to do all your printing, faxing and copying for less than the price of the individual products. The HP OfficeJet LX. One product. One manual. One set of supplies. A one year Express Exchange warranty. And only one place to go to find out more. Your nearest HP stockist. For more information call HP on 0990 474747.

The new HP OfficeJet LX

HEWLETT® PACKARD

Six die in blast at Imran Khan cancer hospital

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN LAHORE

A POWERFUL bomb yesterday devastated a charitable cancer hospital in Lahore founded by Imran Khan, the former Pakistani cricketer, killing six people and wounding at least 25. The attack may have been meant as a warning to Mr Khan to stay out of politics.

The bomb went off in an air-conditioning duct close to a waiting area at Shaukad Khanum memorial hospital, named after Mr Khan's mother, who died of cancer. The reception area, chemotherapy ward and part of the cafeteria were destroyed. Several vehicles parked outside were damaged, and pieces ofbroken glass were scattered around. More than 150 patients were in the lounge when the explosion occurred. A 12-year-old boy and two other patients were killed on the spot. The others died later. The wounded, many of them critical, were taken to a state-run city hospital.

Officials of a bomb disposal squad said they had yet to determine the cause of the explosion.

Mr Khan, who had been expected to announce in a day or two that he is forming a political party in a bid to become Prime Minister, said that the explosion was intended to intimidate him. "It was the work of a savage or an animal because human beings cannot do such a thing to a hospital. The bombing cannot discourage me from the work I am doing."

Mr Khan said the hospital would continue functioning. He has called for an investigation. According to one estimate, millions of pounds worth of hospital equipment was destroyed.

Mr Khan's wife, Jemima, the Goldsmith heiress, was to fly to Pakistan from London last night. A spokesman for Mrs Khan, who converted to Islam before her marriage last summer, said: "Jemima is obviously devastated. It has been a tragic day for the hospital and she's making every effort to get back to Lahore as quickly as possible."

The multimillion-pound Shaukat Khanum hospital was opened last year and took almost ten years to complete. The cost of building the hospital was met through donations personally collected by Mr Khan. The hospital, the most modern in Pakistan, treats more than 8,000 cancer patients a year.

Mr Khan was planning to launch his own political party to oppose the Government of Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister. Miss Bhutto cut short a visit to Peshawar to fly to Lahore and visit the hospital. She denounced the bombing, which she blamed on unspecified "terrorists".

Mr Khan has emerged as the main critic of the Bhutto Government. But his accusation of curruption against the Prime Minister and her Cabinet members resulted in the Government banning his hospital advertisement campaign on state-controlled television and stopping him from collecting donations. Mr Khan has accused the Government of harassing him by sending notices for allegedly evading taxes.

In February he invited the Princess of Wales to visit his hospital and attend a fund-raising dinner. The visit fuelled political controversy and led to an intensified attack on Mr Khan by the Government's supporters. Speculation about his ambitions has been gaining momentum since November, when he and his wife rode around Lahore in a cavalcade. The ostensible aim was to raise money for the hospital, but commentators said it seemed more like a political rally.

Aftermath of the blast at the Shaukad Khanum cancer hospital in which six died

Serb aid held up by Karadzic survival

FROM REUTER IN BRUSSELS

AID donors, led by the United States, increased pressure on Bosnian Serb hardliners at the weekend when they pledged more than $1.2 billion (£800 million) for Bosnia, but said that little would go to the Serbs while their war leaders remained in office.

Sanctions, such as withholding economic aid, may be applied to any faction breaking the terms of the Dayton peace accord, which includes the banning from office and handing over of indicted war criminals such as Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, and Ratko Mladic, his army chief.

"We all agree that it is imperative that they not remain in power," Lawrence Summers, the Deputy US Treasury Secretary, told reporters at the end of the 50-nation aid conference on Bosnia. "The big losers at this conference are the Bosnian Serb people."

Carl Bildt, the international community's leading representative in Bosnia, gave a warning of more sanctions if the two men were allowed to remain in power much longer.

Contrary to early assurances that most of the money — expected to reach $5.1 billion over the next four years — would be run through the international institutions in order to ensure impartiality, each donor country can pick the reconstruction projects it wants to contribute to. Diplomats said that this meant the bulk of the reconstruction money would go to the Muslim-Croat Federation, at least until the Bosnian Serbs had dropped their present leaders.

☐ Sarajevo: Haris Silajdzic, the former Bosnian Prime Minister, announced the formation of a new political party and his candidacy for President at the weekend. The New Party for Bosnia-Herzegovina, with its ticket of Muslim, Serb and Croat candidates, is promoting a multi-ethnic Bosnia.

UK Bosnia contracts, page 44

Liberian pullout cut back

Washington: The Pentagon began to scale back its hazardous evacuation operation in Liberia yesterday (Martin Fletcher writes). At the same time a brief ceasefire collapsed and Monrovia, the capital, was swept by renewed looting and violence.

About 1,700 foreigners, including several Britons, have been rescued by US helicopters since the operation began in the war-torn city. Those evacuated to Sierra Leone include UN personnel.

Editor with Aids virus resigns

Washington: Andrew Sullivan, 32, the young British editor of America's *New Republic* magazine, has resigned and disclosed he is HIV-positive (Martin Fletcher writes). He told his staff he has had the Aids virus for nearly three years but remains healthy. He was resigning because five years as editor was enough.

Chechenia exit by Russians begins

Moscow: Russian forces are expected to begin a partial withdrawal from Chechenia today in advance of peace negotiations (Richard Beeston writes). But Lieutenant-General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, the Russian commander, made clear that they would be redeployed "if the situation gets more complicated".

New Dole aide forced to resign

Washington: Just days after announcing that she was joining Bob Dole's presidential campaign, Mary Matalin, the wife of James Carville, one of President Clinton's top campaign strategists, has been forced out by a barrage of Republican criticism (Martin Fletcher writes).

Tutu truth-seekers ready to unlock dark secrets of past

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

ON THE stroke of 9am today, the city hall in East London, in South Africa, will fall silent as Archbishop Desmond Tutu bows his head in prayer to mark the opening of Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings which in the weeks ahead will catapult South Africa into a painful, potentially divisive exposé of its bloody past.

Two years after democratic elections closed the door on more than four decades of brutal political repression, the biggest commission of its kind ever constituted is poised to unlock apartheid's dark secrets. Over the next 18 months, with an optional six-month extension, Archbishop Tutu, the commission chairman, and his 16 multiracial commissioners face the task of guiding the nation along the path of reconciliation by confronting, exposing and, they hope, exorcising the past.

The purpose of the commission, according to legisation, is to establish "as complete a picture as possible" of the nature, causes and extent of gross violations of human rights in the period between March 1960, when 69 black protesters in Sharpeville, south of Johannesburg, were shot dead by the police, until December 1993, when a democratic constitution was in place.

Those who come forward to confess politically motivated crimes will be granted amnesty from prosecution. The commission will provide counselling and decide on reparations for victims.

The theory is that victims will be soothed and their oppressors suitably humiliated and then the country can stride forward in harmony. However, many South Africans are sceptical. The commission has run into stiff opposition from both ANC opponents and victims.

Archbishop Tutu's commissioners, who have powers of subpoena, are backed by investigative units and can authorise them to break into public buildings and homes.

The family of Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness leader who died in police custody, is opposed to amnesty and wants people who committed crimes to be prosecuted. Last week the Bikos and three other families launched a constitutional court case to suspend hearings, but their challenge has scant chance of success and Archbishop Tutu has expressed his dismay at the move, saying: "We have the support of the vast majority of [the] people."

☐ Ramaphosa quits: Cyril Ramaphosa, the African National Congress secretary-general who is widely tipped as a future South African President, has announced he is leaving parliament for a senior post in a black business conglomerate. He is only 43 and it would be foolhardy to assume that his move rules out a political comeback.

■ Area controlled by local council, residents association and traffic wardens.
☐ Area controlled by you.

Commercial airliners, private planes and military aircraft crowd Britain's air space.

Ensuring they avoid each other is just one of the responsibilities of an RAF Air Traffic Controller.

It requires an ability to assimilate complicated information very quickly, as well as the confidence to act immediately using your own judgement.

It's a lot more rewarding than just directing the traffic, but a lot more demanding too.

You can't afford to lose your head when you have to calmly talk a pilot down who's dangerously low on fuel and having to 'fly blind' in thick fog.

We're looking for ambitious, determined people with a minimum of two A levels and five GCSEs, which must include passes in maths and English.

If you've got them, and think you can cope with the pressures of this exciting job, contact your local RAF Careers Information Office or call 0345 300 100.

24 hr information: 0345 300 100 (Calls charged at local rate.) Or post coupon to Group Captain S.J. Barclay OBE, Freepost 4335, Bristol BS1 3YX.

Mr, Mrs, Ms _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____ Date of birth _____

Present or intended qualifications _____

A3009 15/04

WE ARE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYERS UNDER THE RACE RELATIONS ACT AND WELCOME APPLICATIONS FROM ALL ETHNIC GROUPS

ROYAL AIR FORCE CONTROLLER

Blair's Euro-thinkers need to sharpen their ideas on thorny social chapter

THIS WEEK IN EUROPE

You might think that London already contained enough think-tanks generating ideas for Tony Blair, but you would be wrong. Stand by for the impending launch of the Centre for European Reform.

Strictly speaking, the new policy factory will be independent of political parties and its board is sprinkled with luminaries such as Lord Gillmore of Thamesfield (former head of the Foreign Office), Lord Dahrendorf and Sir David Hannay (former British Ambassador to the EU). But its architects are all informal or actual advisers to Labour and the centre's seminarists and pamphleteers will not be backing Conservative policy on Europe, whatever that may be. The very name "Centre for European Reform" expresses the very image that new Labour desires: Euro-enthusiasm tempered by practical realism.

I have a modest proposal for a thorny problem which the centre should tackle, but which the gurus may overlook on the ground that Labour already has a policy on the issue. Mr Blair needs a better position on the social chapter. Not far from the Labour leader's office, people have begun to think in previously unthinkable directions.

Labour's clear promise that Britain will join the 14 states which signed the social clauses of the Maastricht treaty may be hurting the party in the polls and is plainly hurting it with businessmen. Last week's MORI poll in *The Times* showed Labour lagging behind the Tories on only a handful of issues, including Europe. But the difference was only 31-26. Come the campaign, Tory fire will rain down on the job-destroying dangers that lurk in the ill-defined wording of the social chapter. Tories have not yet woken up to the importance of an opinion just handed down by the Advocate-General of the EU court which reinterprets a (pre-Maastricht opt-out) clause in the treaty in a sense that ought to give the Government the heebie-jeebies.

Britain wants the court to declare the recent Brussels directive limiting Europe's working week to 48 hours illegal on the ground that it is not a "health and safety" measure. In an opinion that has yet to be confirmed by the whole court, a French Advocate-General not only threw out the British case, but concluded into the bargain that "the terms 'safety and health' should be interpreted broadly". These words spell future trouble. Such trouble is multiplied many times over in the spaciously vague wording of the social chapter itself.

Mr Blair's first attempt to get out from under these problems only dug him deeper into a hole. Last November he tried dismissing the chapter as a "set of principles"; but as a lawyer he should know that it is nothing of the kind. He then assured his audience that he had "no intention of agreeing to anything and everything that emerges from the EU". Because he is equally firmly committed to accepting majority-voted social law developed from the chapter, one of these two promises cannot be true.

Labour's Euro-thinkers are now wondering if the social chapter might not be amended while it is being put back into the treaty — to "take the sting out for business". That might not be unpopular: the European employers' group, Unice, already backs rewriting the chapter. A Labour government could enjoy both a diplomatic honeymoon in the EU and some leverage: Prime Minister Blair could threaten to retain Britain's social opt-out unless his EU partners considered his ideas.

This thinking has not got very far. But the smart money says Robin Cook, Shadow Foreign Secretary, will pronounce on this at the CBI's "Business in Europe" week in June. Any businessman wanting to help Mr Cook to reflect before then can send him a postcard c/o the House of Commons.

GEORGE BROCK

Britain given last chance to run for 'currency' bus

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN VERONA

IT COULD already be too late for Britain to join Europe's single currency at its birth even if it decides that it wants to, according to officials from the big European powers and the Commission.

The view emerged from a weekend meeting in Verona where European Union finance ministers gave a hefty shove to the machinery for launching the euro on January 1, 1999 and made clear that a recalcitrant Britain could be consigned to the outer rank of a three-tier monetary Europe.

Behind the polite discourse in Verona's exquisite Giustini Gardens, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, was given an iron message by his French, German and other colleagues: Britain will pay a price if it chooses to stay outside both the euro and the new exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) which the ministers agreed to set up to link other EU currencies to the euro.

Teaming up with Germany's Theo Waigel, Jean Arthuis, the French Finance Minister, said spoilers in the monetary game could not be tolerated: "We have to stop countries flouting the rules, polluting the system and earning unjustified windfalls." France led the way over the weekend with a raft of ideas, far from universally supported, for punishing countries that gained advantage by letting their currencies devalue against the euro.

France and Germany told Britain it faced an urgent choice about whether to join monetary union. They would insist on enforcing the rule that requires two years of ERM membership before a country can qualify for the euro. Hans Tietmeyer, chief of the Bundesbank, brandished a well thumbed copy of the treaty. "It says in Article 109J, paragraph four, that a country wishing to join a single European currency must have been two years in the ERM without undue pressure on its exchange rate or a devaluation," he said.

> We have to stop countries flouting rules and earning unjustified windfalls

Since the founder members are to be picked in the early spring of 1998, this means the deadline may already have passed. "They have very little time. They will have to make up their minds pretty quickly," the French Minister said. M Arthuis and Herr Waigel dismissed Britain's argument that the shake-up in the ERM in 1993, which let currencies fluctuate much more widely, had rendered the Maastricht clause meaningless.

However, Mr Clarke and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, said that political realism would prevail and the strict rules would be overlooked, should Britain apply for membership. Mr George said: "It would be completely dotty, if you were trying to develop a process of building a common currency embracing as many countries as possible, to exclude a country which had a stable exchange rate but had not technically been in this mechanism for two years."

Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister, whose own country is outside the ERM but wants to join monetary union, said a decision on the two-year rule could wait until 1998.

Mr Clarke, a generally popular figure among his European colleagues, was given a sympathetic hearing by his colleagues when he sketched the sinister image that the ERM had acquired in the British popular mind after the pound's expulsion in September 1992.

Although only Sweden shared Britain's opposition to a new ERM, Mr Clarke shrugged off as meaningless for Britain the various schemes being floated by France, Germany and the Commission and backed by a handful of other states, for the so-called "out" members to be subject to special surveillance and possible penalties for allowing their currencies to devalue and their economies to diverge from the rigour laid down at Maastricht.

Although Britain still reserved the right to opt into monetary union, Mr Clarke said, "if we are out, no penalties of any kind could be imposed on the United Kingdom." Officials from Britain and its partner countries scoffed at the notion that London had been "ambushed" in Verona because all of the weekend ideas had been aired publicly in recent months.

Mr Clarke depicted as wishful thinking a plan by Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the monetary Commissioner, which would require non-EMU states to submit their budget plans to Brussels before their national parliaments. Nevertheless, the Commission was told to follow up the idea which was supported by Belgium, Germany and France.

M Arthuis made clear that Britain could count on no support from the Chriac administration as he outlined his plan for sanctions on countries that sought advantage from staying outside the euro and new ERM. The plan includes "reinforced surveillance for those not playing the game".

Leading article, page 19

Kenneth Clarke relaxes yesterday after a photo session at the European finance ministers' meeting in Verona

French scent trouble over cent

BY CHARLES BREMNER

BRITAIN scored something of a victory here at the weekend when ministers decided on the coinage for the proposed new single currency, the euro.

This was not so much that the Queen's head was saved by the decision to allow national motifs on one side of the coins, since almost all of the other 15 members of the European Union also wanted to keep their own emblems. British satisfaction stems more from the euro's sub-unit being dubbed the cent.

The name, derived from Latin, was brought to the modern world with the American dollar, and is thus deemed English. Although pronounceable in most of the EU's 11 official languages, it sounds clumsy in many and poses a special problem for Britain's old adversary and guardian of Euro-ideology, France.

Ministers had barely baptised the cent in the august surroundings of Verona's Palazzo Giusti when the French were complaining about the confusion if they applied the word, which also means a hundred. "How will you know what it means when someone says something costs 'five hundred'?" a French journalist protested.

An embarrassed French Finance Minister came up with a solution. "For us, it will still of course be centimes," said Jean Arthuis. "Cent is just the abbreviation of centime."

Eta hostage freed after 341 days

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

Aldaya: anaesthetised and dumped in a wood

THE Basque separatist group Eta yesterday released an industrialist after holding him captive for 341 days, the longest of any of Eta's series of 76 kidnappings.

The abduction of José María Aldaya, 54, polarised the Basque region as never before. Thousands took part in almost daily demonstrations demanding his release. They had to run the gamut of sneering, stone-throwing separatists.

But the general relief at Señor Aldaya's liberation was clouded by a report from the Interior Ministry that more than £500,000 had been paid for his release. The sizeable sum will almost certainly be used to finance Eta's depleted infrastructure and to buy arms and explosives with which to carry out further attacks.

"Señor Aldaya has arrived very tired, as would be expected when he got here under effects of what he had been given," said Ignacio Aluna, a Basque priest acting as spokesman for the family that owns a haulage business near San Sebastián.

Señor Aldaya had been given an anaesthetising injection by his captors before being dumped in a wooded mountain pass near the resort. He awoke at 1.30am and walked towards the lights of a nearby hostel.

At the hostel he telephoned his family and then the Basque police. His two sons collected him from a police station and took him home.

Later yesterday morning a caravan of nine cars carrying Señor Aldaya's employees arrived at the family's large house in Fuenterrabia and gave him an emotional welcome. He is not expected to give a press conference until tomorrow.

Government sources say Eta deliberately held Señor Aldaya longer than it needed as a warning to other Basque businessmen who refuse to pay Eta's "revolutionary tax", a blackmail system used to finance their operations. It is estimated that since 1970 Eta has obtained more than £20 million from kidnappings.

Do you have about 40% too much money?

Then why spend 40% more on your international calls?

- Worldcall costs about 40% less than BT for international calls.
- Call anytime, to anywhere in the world.
- Pay for what you say, with per second billing to most countries.
- Enjoy high quality digital connections from your home or business.
- Prepay just £25* and get £10 free credit.
- It's simple – just dial Worldcall first.

*Price excludes VAT. Rate card and user guide available on request.

£10 FREE CALL OFFER

Offer extended to 30th April

Call now 0181 900 9990

Worldcall

for those with about 40% more to say

HOLD THE FRONT PAGE!

DON'T THROW IT AWAY!

30% of Britain's annual domestic rubbish is paper – and half of that is old newspapers.

The obvious answer is to recycle them.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION DIAL THE FAX BACK NUMBER 0839 393038

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times

OR WRITE TO: 1 RIVENHALL ROAD, WESTLEA, SWINDON, SN5 7BD

TELEPHONE: 01793 879229 FAX: 01793 886182

Issued by the NEWSPRINT & NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP

first direct

06:30

"I don't have to get dressed to go to my bank"

13:15

"I can settle my bills over the phone"

23:30

"I like the way they're on call 24 hours a day"

change your life
change your bank

no more rushing to beat closing time

Not all banks are the same. First Direct set out to change the face of banking in 1989. We were committed to providing a service that enabled customers to arrange their banking around their lives, on their terms. We recognised that bank closing times were a source of bitter frustration, so we are open every hour of every day of the year. One simple phone call, charged at local call rates, gives you access to a comprehensive range of banking services. From loans to sharedealing, savings to travellers cheques. One of our Banking Representatives will be on hand to take your call from wherever you are.

never be treated like a number again

Because First Direct does not need any high street branches, we can invest the cost savings we make into training and new technology. We recruit our staff first and foremost on the basis of their people skills and then equip them with the necessary banking acumen. Our customers find that they are always treated with care and courtesy and we are always looking for new ways to help. Take bill payment - our customers can arrange to pay their household bills by phone, simply telling us who to pay, how much and when. Our approach seems to be well received as 89%* of our customers actively recommend us to their friends and colleagues.

manage your money your way

Many of our customers find that just a three minute call each month is all it takes to manage their finances. With every First Direct Cheque Account comes the First Direct Card, which guarantees cheques for up to £100. Your Card also allows you to withdraw up to £500 daily from the cash machines of Midland, NatWest, TSB, Clydesdale, Northern and the Royal Bank of Scotland.

benefit from free banking, even if you are overdrawn

Incurring punitive bank charges for going a few pounds overdrawn seems as nonsensical to us as it does to you. That's why at First Direct there are no charges for writing cheques, standing orders, direct debits and cash machine withdrawals, even if your account is overdrawn. You also get an automatic overdraft facility of up to £250 free of any arrangement fees, to help with monthly budgeting. All you pay is a competitive rate of interest on the precise amount you borrow.

Changing your bank is far easier than you might expect.
It is worthwhile because First Direct has changed banking for good.

The time is right. Call us now on

0800 24 24 24

*Research was undertaken by MOP research among 500 First Direct and 500 other randomly selected bank customers. The interviews were conducted by telephone between November 1995 and January 1996. Enquiries must be aged 18 or over. In order to safeguard our customers, certain transactions may require written confirmation. First Direct reserves the right to decline to open an account for you. First Direct credit facilities are subject to status. For current details of our services write to First Direct, Freepost HK16, Leeds, LS98 2RS. Calls are monitored. First Direct is a division of Midland Bank plc, which is regulated by SFA. Member HSBC Group

Post to: First Direct, Freepost HK 16, Leeds, LS98 2RS.
(no stamp needed) to receive more information on First Direct.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms or Title _____ Name _____

Address _____

BC545

Postcode _____ Telephone (inc. std) _____

Leigh, Worcestershire.

... 0171-782 5046.

Cardross, Dunbartonshire.
April 12.

ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD

DANCE

The Royal Ballet revives Frederick Ashton's *Les Illuminations* at Covent Garden
OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday

OPERA

The great British diva Josephine Barstow sings *Medea* with Opera North in Leeds
OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday

MUSICALS

Elvis — The Musical, with P.J. Proby, goes on stage at the Prince of Wales Theatre
OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday

POP

Sonic Youth, the pioneers of the post-punk era, blast their stuff in the Forum
GIG: Thursday
REVIEW: Saturday

Stephanie Billen talks to Terry Gilliam about his new film, and about the art of getting what you want in Tinseltown

How to succeed in monkey business

SIMON WALKER

Terry Gilliam, former *Monty Python* animator and Hollywood *enfant terrible*, enjoys humiliating his actors — "I do my bit to keep their feet on the ground"

The ominous slogan on the posters for Terry Gilliam's latest film, *Twelve Monkeys* — "Heed the warning" — could equally well apply to the director himself. For the subversive film-maker, once best known for his *Monty Python* animations, is these days the object of considerable trepidation in Hollywood.

"The studios know I'm going to be trouble if I don't get my own way," says the 55-year-old director. His reputation for being difficult began after he argued with Universal over the ending of *Brazil*: they wanted something up-beat; he held out for the ending by which the incarcerated Jonathan Pryce can only find freedom through his soaring imagination. The bitter conflict was immortalised in a spicy book, *The Battle of Brazil*. "It made me sound like a madman who will kill if anyone touches my film," he recalls gleefully. The net result is that he has the final cut on his pictures — "all I ask for is total control" — his only restrictions being to come in on time and within budget.

Nevertheless, the casting of Bruce Willis as the time-traveller Cole in *Twelve Monkeys* was not exactly his idea. Having handed Gilliam a slightly esoteric script about a man travelling back from the future to discover the source of a virus, the studios realised they needed a big name to "open" the picture. "Hollywood is obsessed with the opening weekend and they had a lot of awful suggestions for big stars to play the lead." Such as? Gilliam replies teasingly: "People named Tom, a lot of people named Tom. Then we had a call from Bruce Willis. I had heard stories about his entourage, but when I met him, he actually asked me: 'Am I going to hurt the film?', which struck me as a very sensitive thing to say. There was an element of uncertainty about whether he could become as vulnerable as I wanted him to be, but he got there."

> ❛ I love leaving things loose enough that things can happen ❜

Willis's performance was all the more crucial since Gilliam was, as in *The Fisher King*, attempting to break away from his image as a dazzling film-maker whose pictures rely solely on special effects. "When the reviews of *Brazil* came out in England, only one person mentioned Jonathan Pryce's performance. I think there is a kind of visual illiteracy over here. If you do anything visually striking, people can't see anything else. Reviewers keep saying *Twelve Monkeys* is visually stunning but I honestly don't think they know what they are talking about. It does look beautiful but it's not extraordinary — people sitting in cars talking."

If Gilliam has a healthy respect for his actors, he has a healthy disrespect, too. Not content with humbling Willis, he persuaded award-winning veteran Christopher Plummer to play scientist Dr Leland Goines, at one point ignominiously kidnapped. "We take this great actor and we end up putting him in a body bag . . . a Shakespearean actor acting in a sack" — an impudence akin to making Robert De Niro act with a bag on his head in *Brazil*. "So much of the star system is about building people up. I do my little bit to keep their feet on the ground."

The director's ritual humiliation of big stars mirrors his treatment of his characters, fledgelings up against a cruel and chaotic universe. Yet an equally strong motif in his pictures is madness. For *Twelve Monkeys*, Gilliam at the last moment added a preface indicating that the film was just a schizophrenic's ramblings, and throughout Cole wrestles with the idea that his whole mission could be no more than a bad dream. Gilliam is aware of the paradox. Is the world hostile or are we just paranoid? "Hope springs eternal that it's just paranoia, but it reflects a confusion I feel. There is this huge complex system and sometimes I think there are people in control and sometimes I think nobody's in control. The films are about me trying to make sense of it."

Madeleine Stowe, who plays the psychiatrist opposite Willis, maintains that, like Robert Altman, Gilliam loves chaos. "He doesn't like to follow the expected course of things. This has been the most disorientating experience I've ever had." Gilliam says: "I suppose I love leaving things loose enough that things can happen. I like the accidents that occur, like Madeleine Stowe's blonde wig in *Twelve Monkeys*. In the script she puts on a black one, but because Madeleine is dark, it had to be blonde. I didn't think about it till we were shooting it, then suddenly we had this Hitchcock blonde and it was, 'Gasp, we're in a Hitchcock film'."

By learning to enjoy such accidents, Gilliam has mellowed considerably. "I'm better at going with the flow. I used to go crazy if I couldn't get what I wanted." At the end of *Twelve Monkeys* there is a scene in the script where the boy Cole looks up at an aeroplane. "I really didn't want to shoot it, so we thought up a shot that would cost so much money they couldn't possibly film it. We took this to the producer and he said, 'Yeah, we'll shoot it'. In fact, we ended up with a really good shot, not out of pure creative impulse but my perversity."

There is a seriousness behind such game-playing. "I don't want this to be just two hours in the cinema. I want the film to hang around with you. After watching *Brazil*, one New York lawyer locked himself in his office for three days. That's really exciting."

His next project could be *The Defective Detective*, about a burnt-out cop who enters a child's fantasy world. In the meantime, he is enjoying the response to *Twelve Monkeys* — it opened well in America — and its bizarre reflection at *Spellbound*, the art and film exhibition at London's Hayward Gallery, where it is being screened behind a huge bank of filing cabinets. Invisibly, in other words. Intriguingly, some of the filing cabinet drawers open to reveal tangled telephones or audience response cards. The best is called "The Price of Fame" and is stuffed with television monitors which film your face. "People don't realise at first. The vainer ones continue looking at themselves. Then they suddenly realise they are being broadcast into the foyer. When we first set it up, I was down there pointing up at them." Straggle-haired in his art-school black shirt, Gilliam looks suddenly boyish again. Heed the warning . . . this is a man who likes the last laugh.

● *Twelve Monkeys opens on Friday*

Ego out of control

POP

Natalie Merchant
Empire, W12

HAVING made a name for herself as the singer with the perennially unfashionable 10,000 Maniacs, Natalie Merchant has blossomed into a soft rock star of surprising magnitude thanks to the success of her debut album *Tigerlily*. But the basis of her appeal remained a mystery after her first London show as a solo act.

Leading a five-piece band that made Fleetwood Mac sound like the Ramones, she staged a stodgy recital of the album interlaced with old 10,000 Maniacs songs including *Eat For Two* and *These Are Days*. Her voice retained its haunting edge, and when she reached for a good tune, such as the new single *Wonder* or the rhythmically engaging *Carnival*, she carried it well enough.

But no matter how many times she turned around and wiggled her backside at the audience, there was no disguising her lack of charisma. Nor was any amount of sincerity and integrity enough to compensate for the missing spark of excitement that was the besetting vice of this drab affair. Her choice of cover versions, including songs made famous by Peggy Lee, Dusty Springfield, Nina Simone and Bobbie Gentry, underlined how far short of the standards of those great singers she fell, painfully so in the case of *Fever* and *Son of a Preacher Man*, performances which belonged in a chicken-in-the-basket environment.

Despite the apparent modesty of her demeanour, there was evidence of an ego spiralling out of control when Merchant commandeered a piano and embarked on a long sequence of unaccompanied and unrehearsed "encores". The mistakes and apologetic giggles were too legion to count, and I cannot recall ever before seeing such a slipshod and self-indulgent display in front of a paying audience.

DAVID SINCLAIR

A woman of no impotence

THEATRE

She Knows, You Know
Leeds

HYLDA BAKER, the minute North Country comedienne who made it big with *The Good Old Days*, died ten years ago. She is probably most remembered for her impossibly elastic insult-mouthing lips; for her catchphrase "She knows y'know"; and for her croaky, broad Lancashire voice with that tinge of camp.

Today, Baker is being reembodied in a show written and performed at the West Yorkshire Playhouse by Jean Fergusson (from *Last of the Summer Wine*) who has been impersonating Baker since childhood.

There is a sizeable difference between the two women. Baker was 4ft 10in at a stretch. Fergusson is tall and blonde, a more likely candidate for Baker's dumb sidekick Cynthia (the "she" of "she knows").

But Fergusson metamorphoses into Baker, primping her permed wig, staggering like an old seadog in heels, letting out gurgling chortles. The affect is aided by her dressing room, where subtly larger-than-life furnishings shrink the actress. More importantly, Fergusson is wholly absorbed in the part.

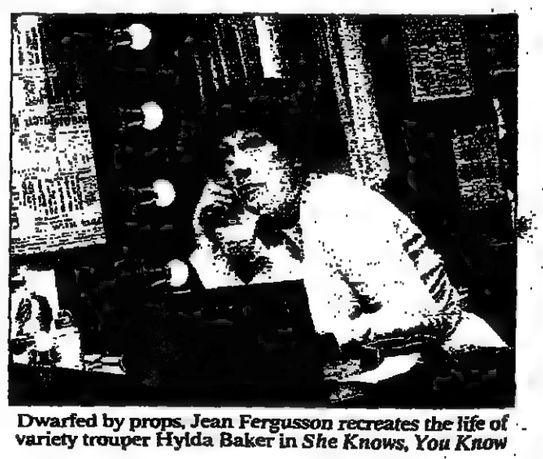
This single-hander does have its limitations. Baker slowly lost her faculties and ended up, without family, in a home. Fergusson's dramatic journey is bound to move from comedy towards sorrow. The sadder second half is not really profoundly moving. Still, Baker's strength is that she eschews the lachrymose. The time scheme, jumping back and forth as in the old lady's mind, also allows Fergusson to keep injecting the action with the oomph of Baker's best sketches.

The highlight is the revival of her double act with Cynthia and splendid malapropisms abound ("No man has ever dallied with my afflictions and I say that with no fear of contraception"). Cynthia's absence matters not a tittle, given that she never said a word.

Baker's comic ticks, including those malapropisms, do wear a mite thin, even if there is an interesting implied continuum from her lifelong verbal inventiveness to her floundering for nouns in old age, probably suffering from Alzheimer's disease — or, as she calls it, Alka Seltzer's. Overall, the monologue format works unusually well. Baker, after all, gave interviews which were virtually one-way conversations. By locating Baker in her dressing-room, this hyperactive character can talk us through her career in the guise of a self-bolstering warm-up.

Fergusson remembers Baker fondly, although she was famously difficult. Here, her bark is worse than her bite. Her snappiness is always laced with humour. Meanwhile, by smoothly blending Baker's variety acts and her ever-quipping offstage personality, this portrait hints that the adage instilled by her vaudevillian father — "The show must go on" — spread into Baker's private life. She couldn't stop joking.

KATE BASSETT

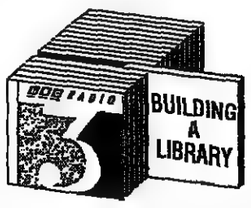


Dwarfed by props, Jean Fergusson recreates the life of variety trouper Hylda Baker in *She Knows, You Know*

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

BARBER'S *KNOXVILLE, SUMMER OF 1915*
by Edward Seckerson



"We are talking now of summer evenings in Knoxville, Tennessee, in the time that I lived there so successfully disguised to myself as a child." The words of the American writer James Agee are proudly displayed at the head of Samuel Barber's "lyric rhapsody". Barber's *Knoxville, Summer of 1915* is about growing up in a world of adults and it's about what adults might learn from children and what children must learn from life.

Knoxville was commissioned by the American soprano, Eleanor Steber, whose pioneering recording of 1948 (Sony MPK 46727) speaks plainly but without nuance. Barber didn't want precious, neither did he want chaste. Sylvia McNair (Telarc CD 80250) gives both in her Merchant-Ivory-style interpretation — all slow motion and soft-focus. Then there's the matronly approach of Ruth Golden (Koch), and Roberta Alexander's version (Etcetera), which is spoilt by bad diction. Kathleen Battle (DG) sings beautifully, but it's a self-conscious beauty. Better the husky, personable timbre of Barbara Hendricks on EMI.

Two performances stand out: Dawn Upshaw, with the Orchestra of St Lukes under David Zinman (Nonesuch 7559-79187-2) and **Leontyne Price**'s 1968 recording with **Thomas Schippers** and the **New Philharmonia** (RCA 09026 61983-2, £12.95). Price has it by a whisper. With her wonderful ear for the music of the text, her bluesy inflection of the melodic line, you feel the weight of her experience and the growing pains of countless generations.

● *To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk*
● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Maria Callas survey*

NEW INVESTMENT RATES FROM THE CHESHIRE
EFFECTIVE FROM 15th APRIL 1996

	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS C.A.R.*
PREMIUM 100 Annual Interest			
£100,000+	5.70	4.56	-
£50,000+	5.40	4.32	-
£25,000+	5.00	4.00	-
£10,000+	4.50	3.60	-
£5,000+	4.00	3.20	-
PREMIUM 100 Monthly Interest			
£100,000+	5.56	4.45	5.70
£50,000+	5.27	4.22	5.40
£25,000+	4.89	3.91	5.00
£10,000+	4.41	3.53	4.50
£5,000+	4.12	3.30	4.20
PREMIUM ACCESS* Annual Interest			
£10,000+	3.70	2.96	-
£5,000+	3.20	2.56	-
£2,500+	2.90	2.32	-
£500+	2.65	2.12	-
£1+	0.50	0.40	-
TESSA (net basis)* Annual Income			
£3,000+	6.20	-	-
£25-2,999	5.70	-	-

CLOSED ISSUES

	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS C.A.R.*
PREMIUM 60 Annual Income			
£10,000+	3.70	2.96	-
£5,000+	3.20	2.56	-
£2,500+	2.90	2.32	-
£500+	2.65	2.12	-
£1+	0.50	0.40	-
PREMIUM 60 INCOME Monthly Income			
£100,000+	4.70	3.76	4.80
£50,000+	4.41	3.53	4.50
£25,000+	3.83	3.06	3.90
£10,000+	3.64	2.91	3.70
£5,000+	3.40	2.72	3.45
£2,500+	2.96	2.37	3.00

CHESHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY
TAKING CARE OF YOUR INTERESTS

CHIEF OFFICE, CASTLE STREET, MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE SK11 6AE TELEPHONE (01625) 501400

Annual interest is payable on 31st December and half yearly interest on 30th June and 31st December. Interest will be paid or credited after deduction of income tax at 20% or, subject to the required certificate, gross. Net rates shown are for illustrative purposes only. Figures are rounded. Rates may vary. All accounts are subject to change without notice. *Compounded annual rate assuming funds are reinvested at the rate quoted. Tax free subject to investment over a five year period with interest paid annually. *Club Class, Client Deposit Account. Tax Exempt Premium Access and Premium International pay the same rates as for Premium Access

FOR BETTER VALUE WHEN CALLING LONG DISTANCE AND MOBILES, SPEND 3 MINUTES CALLING MERCURY.
FreeCall 0500 200 949
Mercury Communications Limited, New Mercury House, 26 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4HQ.
http://www.mercury.co.uk
MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS
BF25 When mankind meets machine, Mercury can help.

Wild Game.
Bermuda is especially loved by golfers, because it has more golf courses per square mile than anywhere else in the world. No wonder Bermuda is known as one of the most welcoming and civilised places on Earth.
For our 1996 brochure, call Bermuda Tourism on 01753 517 517 quoting ref: TMN/WG or see your travel agent.
Bermuda
The best, truly civilised place on Earth
Bermuda Tourism, 1 Battersea Church Road, London SW11 3LY.

■ BOOKS

Sebastian Faulks explores *The Fatal Englishman* in a superb new triple-biography

IN THE SHOPS: Now
REVIEW: Thursday

■ FILM

Jean-Claude Van Damme, the "muscles from Brussels", is back in a new thriller, *Sudden Death*

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

■ THEATRE

Richard Eyre stages Victor Hugo's *Prince's Play* at the Olivier Theatre

OPENS: Friday
REVIEW: Monday

■ MUSIC

Lord Menuhin's 80th birthday is marked with a gala concert in the Albert Hall

CONCERT: Saturday
REVIEW: Monday

ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Brilliant Birtwistle

OPERA: Rodney Milnes on *The Mask of Orpheus* at Festival Hall

The joint BBCSO-South Bank Birtwistle festival-cum-retrospective could scarcely have enjoyed a more sensational launch than Friday's staging of his *Orpheus* opera, unheard for ten years — a shocking waste. The sensation lay in the very direct impact this enormous work made on a packed Festival Hall, an impact derived not only from the extraordinary originality of Birtwistle's vision, but from the clarity with which it was presented. At the Coliseum in 1986 it seemed a dauntingly "difficult" piece, one reason (apart from the expense involved in staging and rehearsing it) for its temporary disappearance.

There is no point in pretending that *The Mask of Orpheus* is suddenly "easy". Peter Zinovieff's libretto is hugely complex, with its narrative time-shifts and reruns, its bursts of invented language, its rather flattering assumption that we know our classical mythology, its interpolated contextual footnotes. It is almost impossible to read but, like Handel's librettos, it "plays" very clearly.

The music, inspired by rigorous numerological formulae and with substantial electronic content, is equally challenging. Some of it, as Paul Griffiths noted last week, is "loud, shocking and rude", but, as he reminded us, much of it is bewilderingly beautiful: a duet for two mezzo Eurydices that would not be out of place in *Norma*, a little dance of Tippettian grace, a Gallically sensuous love aria for Orpheus.

The second act, covering Orpheus's descent to the Underworld, Eurydice's second death and his suicide, is 50 minutes of white-hot, almost traditionally "operatic" drama, as gripping as the equally short middle act of *Götterdämmerung* (Yes, I am seeking to set this *Orpheus* in the context of 400 years of mainstream operatic endeavour.) The short last act, composed some time after the first two, betrays signs of early-Verdian haste and also attempts a long Donizettian "dying fall" and, through sounds of ravishing beauty, largely succeeds.

The impact that the work made this time owed much to Stephen Langridge's direction in Alison Chitty's spare designs. Occasional surtitles reminded us where we had got to in which bit of narrative; colour-coded costumes were a great help where the three main characters are each represented by three different performers, officially that is — I counted five Orpheuses at one point. Ian Dearden ("sound diffusion") ensured clear separation of orchestral and electronic music and always made clear who was singing, and the staging as a whole showed just why two conductors were needed and emphasised the clarity of Birtwistle's thought-processes without in any way diminishing their epic grandeur. The episodes danced by the Cholmondeleys and the Featherstonehaughs were eloquent and helpful. Too little space to do justice to the heroic army of performers — to the calmly authoritative conductors Andrew Davis and Martyn Brabbins, to Jean Rigby and Anne-Marie Owens (Eurydice), to John Garrison and Peter Bronder (Orpheus), and not least to Gary Bryden, a mesmeric presence as the mimed Orpheus. Marie Angel (Hecate) negotiated fearlessly vocal writing that would have made Donizetti himself blanch. In an ideal world this exceptional production would be taken up immediately by one of our opera companies: a one-night stand is simply not enough, but much praise to the South Bank's daring in mounting it. We were all enriched by it.

ZOË DOMINIC

Harrison Birtwistle with Jocelyn Herbert's mask for the 1986 staging of *Mask of Orpheus*

Songs of innocents and experience

CONCERT

NYO/Fürst
Barbican

BRUCKNER'S Eighth is not only his greatest symphony but the Everest among all symphonies, and as such it provided a fitting climax to the London Symphony Orchestra's long Bruckner-Mozart series, indeed this country's first-ever complete Bruckner cycle. But a generous gesture by the LSO gave Thursday's final concert to the National Youth Orchestra — a confidence vote of which the young players proved themselves very worthy.

Though the NYO's Bruckner did not reach the deepest spiritual depths plumbed during the series, its achievement was easily the most stirring: this performance found more than 150 teenagers responding to the work's awesome demands with confident professionalism. The conductor János Fürst, who plainly knows how to get the best from them, drew playing of warm humanity.

Only the restless opening movement seemed a little loosely shaped. The ominously rolling Scherzo carried terrific force, its dark side evoked in the orchestra's full-bodied sound. The giant Adagio brought out the best in the strings, by turns resonant, radiant and incisive. Throughout the performance the brass blazed impressively, and the woodwind solos were beautifully shaped. All combined powerfully in the Finale's throbbing passages and organ-like sonorities — and none seemed fazed by the tiring length of the very full edition used here.

Late Bruckner was coupled with late Mozart — although the *Coronation* Piano Concerto, No 26 in D, is an elegant work lacking the dramatic tension found in most mature Mozart. While Bruckner's long symphonic spans — the natural length for what he has to say — have made Mozart appear more than ever a concise composer, it was the Mozart that seemed interminable in this concert. Leon McCawley's playing of the solo part may have been a little affected, but he was uninteresting.

Fresh from accompanying a clutch of concertos in the Young Musician of the Year final, the NYO played with consideration here. But their sound lacked Mozartian sheen, and the outer movements had as much sparkle as flat champagne. Crucially, it was unemotional: though in Bruckner they could be judged like any orchestra, they found the most "adult" of composers elusive.

JOHN ALLISON

LONDON

ELVIS. Opening night for this revival of the 20-year-old tribute show P.J. Proby plays the Vegas Elvis, newcomer Alexander Bar is the teenager, and Tim Whitnall (the teenager 20 years ago) now plays the Pelvis in his prime. Positively no emphasis on the gorging on peanut butter and jello torpedoes. **Prince of Wales**, Coventry Street W1 (0171-839 5972). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri and Sat, 5.30 and 8.30pm.

JULIAN BREAM The virtuoso guitarist, in a rare concerto appearance, joins the London Schools Symphony Orchestra for an evening of Spanish music, including Rodrigo's popular *Concierto de Aranjuez* and Ravel's exotic showpiece *Rapsodie Espagnole*. Meredith Davies conducts. **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 8pm.

DOWNTOWN PARADISE Amanda Hurwitz and Richard D. Sharp play Jewish lawyer and black activist on a murder charge in Mark Jenkins's drama. Based on a true case and set in 1970 California. Sharp has just completed filming *Mission Impossible* with Tom Cruise and he was in the West End production of *Five Guys Named Moe*. Sarah Esdaile directs. **Finborough**, Finborough Rd, SW10 (0171-373 3842). Opening tonight, 7.30pm; Then Tue-Sat, 8pm.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM The sought-after tenor **José Carreras** gives what promises to be a memorable concert to mark the Symphony Hall's fifth birthday. Lorenzo Bavaj provides piano accompaniment for works by Scarlatti, Bononcini, Anonimo, Tosti, Verdi, Zandonai, Leoncavallo and Puccini. **Symphony Hall**, Broad Street (0121-212 3333). Tonight, 7.30pm.

CHELTENHAM George Chakiris, who won an Oscar for his role in the film *West Side Story*, teams up with Barbara Murray in Charles Vance's adaptation of Charlotte Brontë's popular and passionate classic **Jane Eyre**. **Everyman**, Regent Street (01242 572573). Tonight-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2pm.

EDINBURGH **The Shakespeare Revue** begins a national tour following a critically acclaimed West End run. A witty evening of song, dance and sketches to do with William S, assembled by Christopher Luscombe and Malcolm McKee. **King's**, Leven Street (0131-220 4349). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat 2.30pm. Next in **Windsor**, Theatre Royal (01753 853888).

LEEDS Opera North's spring season opens with a new production of Cherubini's rarely performed tragedy **Medea**. Josephine Barstow takes the demanding title role and Thomas Randle sings the part of Jason. The great Paul Daniel conducts and Phyllida Lloyd directs. Sung in English and performed in the original version (with dialogue) in a new translation by Kenneth McLeish. **Grand**, New Briggate (0113-245 9351/244 0971). Tonight, Apr 20, 22, 24 and 26. All at 7.15pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican. Contemporary Print Show: Part 1 (0171-638 4141). **British Museum** Vases and Volcanoes: Sir William Hamilton collection (0171-636 1555). **Courtauld** Drawings by Thomas Gainsborough (071-873 2526). **Hayward** Spellbound: Art and Film (071-928 3144). **National Gallery** Old Master paintings from Rome's Doria Pamphilj Gallery (0171-747 2885). **National Portrait Gallery** Faces of the 80s (0171-306 0055). **Richard Green** 14 paintings by L S. Lowry (1071-493 3938). **Royal Academy** Frederic Leighton (0171-439 7438). **Tate** Cézanne (0171-887 8000). **V & A** The Leighton Frescoes (0171-938 8500).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

□ **CHAPTER TWO** Tom Conti and Sharon Glass play unattached New Yorkers whirling towards each other in Neil Simon's comedy. Not his best. **Gielgud**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm.

◪ **LA DOLCE VITA** New David Glass production, derived from the Fellini film that introduced us to *paparazzi*. **Lyric**, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Apr 20 and 27, 2.30pm.

□ **ENDGAME** Alun Armstrong and Stephen Dillane play Hamm and Clov in Katie Mitchell's production of middle period Beckett. **Donmar Warehouse**, Earlham St WC2 (0171-369 1732). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens Apr 17, 7pm. Mon-Sat 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 4pm.

◪ **LADY INTO FOX** Intimate musical by Neil Bartlett and Nicolas Bloomfield based on David Garnett's mysterious, chilling novella. Final week. **Lyric Studio**, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4.30pm.

□ **THE LAST ROMANTICS** Maggie Steed, Mark Kingston and Robert Langdon Lloyd in Nigel Williams's play about one-time literary guru F.R. Leavis and his beautiful wife. **Greenwich**, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until May 4.

□ **PASSION** An unconvincing musical from Sondheim, but Maria Friedman remarkably good as a voracious man-hunter. **Queen's**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **THE PRINCE'S PLAY** Ken Stott plays the Rigoletto role in Victor Hugo's *Le Roi s'Amuse* transposed to Victorian London by Tony Harrison, with the Prince of Wales as the cool philanderer. Richard Eyre directs. **National** (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing-Thurs, 7.15pm; opens Apr 19, 7pm. In rep.

□ **THAT GOOD NIGHT** New N.J. Crisp thriller on tour with Donald Sinden as a veteran film director trying to make peace with his estranged son. Edward Hall directs a company that includes Lucy Fleming and Nigel Davenport. **Richmond**, The Green, Richmond (0181-940 0088). One week only from tonight, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat 2.30pm.

■ **THE THICKNESS OF SKIN** Final week for Clare McIntyre's strong, perceptive play about the awkward consequences of becoming involved with troublesome neighbours. **Theatre Upstairs**, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Apr 18, 3pm; Sat, 4pm.

□ **TWELVE ANGRY MEN** The 12 actors include Peter Vaughan, Timothy West and Kevin Whately, and the director is Harold Pinter: Reginald Rose's justly celebrated jury-room drama. **Comedy**, Panton Street SW1 (0171-369 1731). Now previewing. 7.45pm. Opens Apr 22, 7pm. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers** Phoenix (0171-867 1044). □ **Communicating Doors** Savoy (0171-836 8888). □ **Don't Dress for Dinner** Duchess (0171-494 5070). ◪ **Fame: The Musical** Cambridge (0171-494 5083). ◪ **Grease** Dominion (0171-416 6060). ◪ **Mack and Mabel** Piccadilly (0171-369 1734). ◪ **Miss Saigon** Drury Lane (0171-494 5400). ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400). ◪ **Starlight Express** Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665). □ **The Woman in Black** Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **BROKEN ARROW** (15) John Travolta steals nuclear weapons, Christian Slater tries to get them back. Brainless action movie by John Woo. **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **CITY HALL** (15) Something's rotten in the city of New York, even with Al Pacino as Mayor. Watchable drama with John Cusack, Bridget Fonda and Danny Aiello. Director, Harold Becker. **MGM Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **MIGHTY APHRODITE** (15) Woody Allen searches for his adopted son's natural mother. Engaging variation on old themes, with Oscar-winner Mira Sorvino. **Barbican** (0171-638 8891) **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **ICA** (0171-930 3647) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

NELLY AND MONSIEUR ARNAUD (PG) Claude Sautet's marvellously subtle tale about an older man and a younger woman, with Michel Serrault and Emmanuelle Béart. **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366)

CURRENT

◆ **DEAD MAN WALKING** (15) Oscar winner Susan Sarandon visits Sean Penn on Death Row. Powerful, carefully balanced drama about capital punishment. Director, Tim Robbins. **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **HEAT** (18) LA detective Al Pacino tries to catch Robert De Niro's crooks. Excellent epic crime drama from writer-director, Michael Mann. **MGM Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **SENSE AND SENSIBILITY** (U) Emma Thompson's radiant adaptation of Jane Austen's early novel. With Kate Winslet. Director, Ang Lee. **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

SGT. BILKO (PG) Class spin-off from Phil Silvers's television comedy classic, with Steve Martin as the conniving army sergeant. Director, Jonathan Lynn. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-497 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

SMALL FACES (18) Gillies and Billy MacKinnon's marvellous evocation of a Glasgow childhood in the late 1960s, largely cast with local talent. **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Ct Rd** (0171-636 6148) **NFT** (0171-928 3232) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

SWIMMING WITH SHARKS (15) Jet-black satire about Hollywood, with Kevin Spacey as a monstrous studio executive. Director, George Huang. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Ct Rd** (0171-636 6148)

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Wed 7.30 ORFEO

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets available on the day. The Royal Opera: Tomor 7.00 (Last Night) ARABELLA; Wed, Fri 7.30 NABUCCO. The Royal Ballet: Ton't (First Night), Thur 7.30 Ashton's ILLUMINATIONS/ SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS/THE DREAM

THEATRES

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journ SUNSET BOULEVARD Winner of 7 Tony Awards Including BEST MUSICAL Starring PETULA CLARK 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded information 0171 379 6884 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY 369 1730/344 4444 420 0000 Eves 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3 BEST MUSICAL CRITICS' CIRCLE AWARD 96 COMPANY by Stephen Sondheim & George Furth

ALDWYCH 416 6048/344 4444/420 0000(fee) Mon-Sat 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 4 PETER BOWLES "A Truly Stunning Performance" Sun. Express DEBORAH GRANT CAROLINE LANGRISHE in NOEL COWARD's Classic Comedy PRESENT LAUGHTER "VINTAGE COWARD" M on Sun LAST WEEK Transfers to Wyndams April 30

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6003/312 8030/ /344 4444 (No booking fee) F. MURRAY ABRAHAM GEMMA JONES TOLSTOY by James Goldman Previews from 25 April Opens 30 April

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS "A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

APOLLO Shaftesbury Ave 0171 494 5070 Previews from 9 May. Eves 8pm, Thu mat 3pm Sat 5 & 8.15. Press Night 20 May 7pm Zoë Wanamaker Maria Aitken Robin Ellis SYLVIA a romantic comedy by A.R. Gurney directed by Michael Blakemore

APOLLO LABATTS HAMMERSMITH 416 6060 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (+bkg fee on all no.s) "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER & TIM RICE'S BLOCKBUSTER"Gdn JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT starring PHILLIP SCHOFIELD MUST END SATURDAY Tue-Sat 7.30, Mats Thu, Sat 3.00 ...Riverdance returns 16 May...

ARTS 836 2132/420 0000 BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH by Jimmy Murphy 'Best new play in London' Guardian Booking to 18th May Eves 7.30, Sat at 5.30 & 8.30

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454 FAME THE MUSICAL "FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH" Mail On Sunday "BREATHTAKING" Independent Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

COMEDY 0171 369 1731/ cc 344 4444 (24hrs) KEVIN WHATELY TIMOTHY WEST PETER VAUGHAN TONY HAYGARTH TIM HEALY TWELVE ANGRY MEN Directed by Harold Pinter Now Previewing Mon-Sat 7.45pm, Wed 2.30pm & Sat 4pm Opens 22 April at 7.00

CRITERION 369 1737/344 4444 REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (abridged) "Hilarious" Times Mats Thur at 3, Sat at 5 Sun at 4, Eves at 8pm THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (abridged) Tuesday at 8pm

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 GREASE Starring RICHARD CALKIN and BIONA LINDSAY "Fast,furious & fun,fun,fun" D.Mi Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000 MISS SAIGON "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS 0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE)

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/420 0000 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 "A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std NOW IN ITS 6th YEAR DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER "Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033 BARRY STANTON MICHAEL HIGGS Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "The most thrilling and chilling play for years" D.Mail NOW IN ITS 8TH YEAR Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm NO PERF. TONIGHT

FORTUNE Sudays 3.30 pm "Quite Astonishing" BBC Elizabeth Mansfield as MARIE Booking to July

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee) Some Experiences You Never Forget WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS The Royal National Theatre production J.B Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS "THIS MUST BE SEEN" D.Mail "One of the most intoxicating, theatrically imaginative experiences of the 1990s" Eve. Stand "TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA"D.Tel Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30

GIELGUD 494 5065/344 4444 /420 0000 "A star team juggling with star material...COMEDY AT ITS ZENITH" Mail on Sunday TOM CONTI SHARON GLESS "Wonderful" D.Ex "Luminous" D.Tel CHAPTER TWO "NEIL SIMON AT HIS BEST"S.Tel "Tender, funny & deeply touching....marvellous" D.Mail Mon - Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8.15

HAYMARKET 930 8800 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) THE PETER HALL COMPANY Martin Shaw Anna Carteret Penny Downie David Yelland Michael Denison Dulcie Gray OSCAR WILDE'S AN IDEAL HUSBAND Eves 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Transfers to OLD VIC from May 7 "GREAT & GLORIOUS" S. Times

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/436 5588 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE NOW BKG TO DEC 96 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 312 8000 JIM DALE RETURNS TO THE WEST END "A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" Daily Mail OLIVER! 3RD SPECTACULAR YEAR "LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE" S.Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS

LYRIC 0171 494 5580/ 344 4444 (bkg fee) ***WINNER*** 95 & 96 OLIVIER AWARDS Dein Perry Best Choreography TAP DOGS "KILL TO GET A TICKET" Scot Mon-Thurs 8.00, Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.45

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252. Grps 0171 620 0741/24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 OLIVIER Ton't, Tomor (PREVIEWS) 7.15 THE PRINCE'S PLAY Victor Hugo in a new verse translation by Tony Harrison LYTTELTON Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD Tom Stoppard. Ton't 6pm, PLATFORM: THE HAMLET INDUSTRY

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/436 5588 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

OLD VIC 0171 928 6655/312 8034 'ALAN BENNETT'S SUPERB ADAPTATION' F.T. The Royal National Theatre's THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS "AN IRRESISTABLE PIECE OF THEATRE" LNR "A wonderful evening" F.T. "AN ABSOLUTE WINNER" Time Out Season ends 27th April Tues - Sat 7.30pm, Wed, Thurs & Sat mats 2.30pm LAST 2 WEEKS

OPEN AIR Theatre Regent's Park 0171-486 2431/1933 cc 0171 344 4444 (24hrs) (Bkg Fee) THE COMEDY OF ERRORS Prevs 24 May. THE TEMPEST joins rep 12 June. PAINT YOUR WAGON joins rep 23 July.

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) BEST MUSICAL Olivier/Drama Awards Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS STEPHANIE LAWRENCE STEFAN DENNIS CARL WAYNE ...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444 RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT FUNNY MONEY 1996 OLIVIER AWARDS "LAUGHS GALORE... A WINNER"D. Exp "Better than Feydeau... priceless"D. Tel Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00

PRINCE OF WALES 839 5972/ 420 0000/ 344 4444 ELVIS Press Night Tonight at 7pm Mon-Thurs 8, Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 cc 24hrs 344 4444, Grps 312 1970/413 3321 "WINNER" BEST MUSICAL Evening Standard Award '95 Jerry Herman & Michael Stewart's MACK & MABEL THE HOLLYWOOD ROMANCE Mon-Sat at 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat at 3.00 Now Booking to 7 January '97

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 (24hr Bkg fee) 344 4444 Groups 420 0200 Cameron Mackintosh presents MARTIN GUERRE A New Musical by BOUBLL & SCHONBERG FROM 21 JUNE Ticketholders for perfs prior to 21 June please contact Box Off

QUEEN'S 494 5590/344 4444/ 420 0000 MICHAEL BALL MARIA FRIEDMAN in Sondheim/Lapine's Award-winning musical PASSION "LIGHTS UP THE TOWN" E. Std "SPELLBINDING" S. Tms Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Wed, Sat 3.00

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (0171 638 8891) BARBICAN: ROMEO AND JULIET previews from 18 Apr THE PIT: THE DEVIL IS AN ASS previews from 17 Apr STRATFORD (01789 295623) RST: AS YOU LIKE IT previews from 18 Apr SWAN: THE WHITE DEVIL previews from 17 Apr

SAVOY 0171 836 8888 cc 0171 420 0100 (no bkg fee) ANGELA THORNE COMMUNICATING DOORS by ALAN AYCKBOURN "WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D.Tel Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Wed mat all seats £12

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 (bkg fee) 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee) Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 44th Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 0171 413 3588 (24hr/no bkg fee) Groups 0171 413 3321 TOMMY PAUL KEATING as Tommy KIM WILDE as Mrs Walker "BREATHTAKINGLY IMAGINATIVE...UNMISSABLE" I Mon-Sat 8pm, Wed & Sat 3pm

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 436 5588 "BUDDY" The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun "BUDDY" "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel "BUDDY" Mon-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sats 5.00 & 8.30 ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF 7th HEAVENLY YEAR

VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987 344 4444 Grps 580 6793 Julian Slade's SALAD DAYS Directed by NED SHERRIN Mon - Sat 8, Mats Wed 2.30, Sat 4 Previews from Wed Press Night 18 April 7pm

VICTORIA PALACE BO & cc (no fee) 0171 834 1317 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/312 1998/497 9977 Groups 0171 312 1997 (no fee) /0171 436 5588 (bkg fee) WINNER 1996 OLIVIER AWARDS BEST MUSICAL *JOLSON* with BRIAN CONLEY *JOLSON* "A RESOUNDING HIT" Sunday Telegraph On Monday Nights Allan Stewart will play Jolson Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 NOW BOOKING TO FEB '97

WYNDHAMS 0171 369 1736 (no bkg fee) /344 4444 (bkg fee) MICHAEL GAMBON LIA WILLIAMS BEST PLAY Olivier Awards SKYLIGHT by DAVID HARE Directed by RICHARD EYRE "ONE OF THE PLAYS OF THE DECADE" Int. Herald Tribune LAST 2 WEEKS Mon-Sat 8.00 Mat Sat 3.00

WHITEHALL 369 1735/344 4444/ 420 0000 TRAINSPOTTING THE PLAY "Funny, filthy and furious" FT Mon-Fri at 8, Sat at 8.30 Mat Wed at 5.

WHITEHALL 0171 369 1735 VOYEURZ COMING IN JULY

WIMBLEDON 0181 540 0362 or 0171 344 4444 One week only 15-20 April Adults only! JIM DAVIDSON in SINDERELLA FAST, FURIOUS AND INCREDIBLY FUNNY

Honey we shrunk the bard!!

the REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) All 37 plays in 97 minutes

'Frenzied...irresistible...mayhem... THE AUDIENCE ADORED IT AND SO DID I' Jack Tinker, The Mail

'UPROARIOUSLY FUNNY' Evening Standard

'YOU WILL LAUGH UNTIL IT HURTS' What's On

'A TRIUMPH' The Times

CRITERION THEATRE 0171 369 1747 0171 344 4444

Day one of our two-part series takes a hard look at the winners and

A survivor's guide to work

When five-year-old Sam grows up he wants to be a farmer. But the chances are he will be cultivating crops in a test tube rather than in the fields. Indeed, Sam will be fortunate to have a job at all, according to a leading economic forecaster, Jeremy Rifkin.

In his latest book, *The End of Work*, Rifkin argues that we are fast approaching a workerless world as increasingly sophisticated computers take over much of the labour performed by humans. In this brave new world of automation only a few people will be fortunate enough to enjoy paid employment.

Some of the greatest changes will occur in agriculture. The next 20 years should see the first fully-automated farm — where tasks from feeding the cattle to choosing when to harvest are performed by computerised equipment.

And by early next century chemical companies may have removed farming from the soil altogether. Instead, foodstuffs will be created in the laboratory. This means hundreds of millions of farmers across the globe face the prospect of being eliminated from the economic system.

Mr Rifkin, who is the president of the Foundation of Economic Trends in Washington, also has a pretty gloomy prognosis for other industries. He predicts that within the next 50 years, machines will replace human labour in the manufacturing and service sectors as well.

While robots will move onto the factory floor, so computers that can understand speech and read script will replace receptionists, secretaries, shop assistants, waiters, clerks and all kinds of other office staff.

Middle management is particularly vulnerable to job-loss as computer technology forces company restructuring. The result is massive unemployment among both blue and white-collar workers (something like 75 per cent of the labour force in most countries is engaged in work that is little more than simple repetitive tasks).

So what kind of career options does this leave the student? Many analysts agree with Mr Rifkin's predictions about a shrinking blue-collar workforce. However, they also believe that the service sector will continue to grow. This in turn will absorb the unemployed created by the shrinkage in manufacturing and agriculture.

According to Professor Keith Sisson, the director of the Industrial Relations Research Unit at Warwick University, one of the big growth areas will be in the care sector — in particular, the care of the elderly. Those involved in the establishment and running of residential homes should be looking at a future that is bright.

Mr Rifkin does acknowledge that some professions will survive this computer revolution, and indeed prosper from it. The key is their ability to use state-of-the-art software to process and control information, and the list includes research scientists, design engineers, civil engineers, software analysts, biotechnology processors, public relations specialists, lawyers, investment bankers, management consultants, financial and tax consultants, architects, marketing specialists, film producers and editors, art directors, publishers, writers, editors and journalists.

But even if you do not accept Mr Rifkin's grim predictions, there is little doubt that to survive in the job market in the future, employees are going to have to be flexible. "With the disappearance of the job-for-life people will need to learn skills that can be adapted to wherever they work," says Professor Sisson.

So where does this leave today's students facing difficult career choices, or the anxious parents of even younger children like Sam? "The first priority should still be to do something that you would thoroughly enjoy, and not necessarily something that would end in a career," says Professor Sisson. "The other priority is to get some training in a general subject like management sciences, or a couple of years with a big company.

"Of course there will still be occupations where you will need specific skills — doctors, lawyers and the like — but unless you have a burning ambition for these, you would be better trying to get some good work experience. The important thing is that you learn skills that can be adapted to the field you are in."

JUSTINE HANCOCK

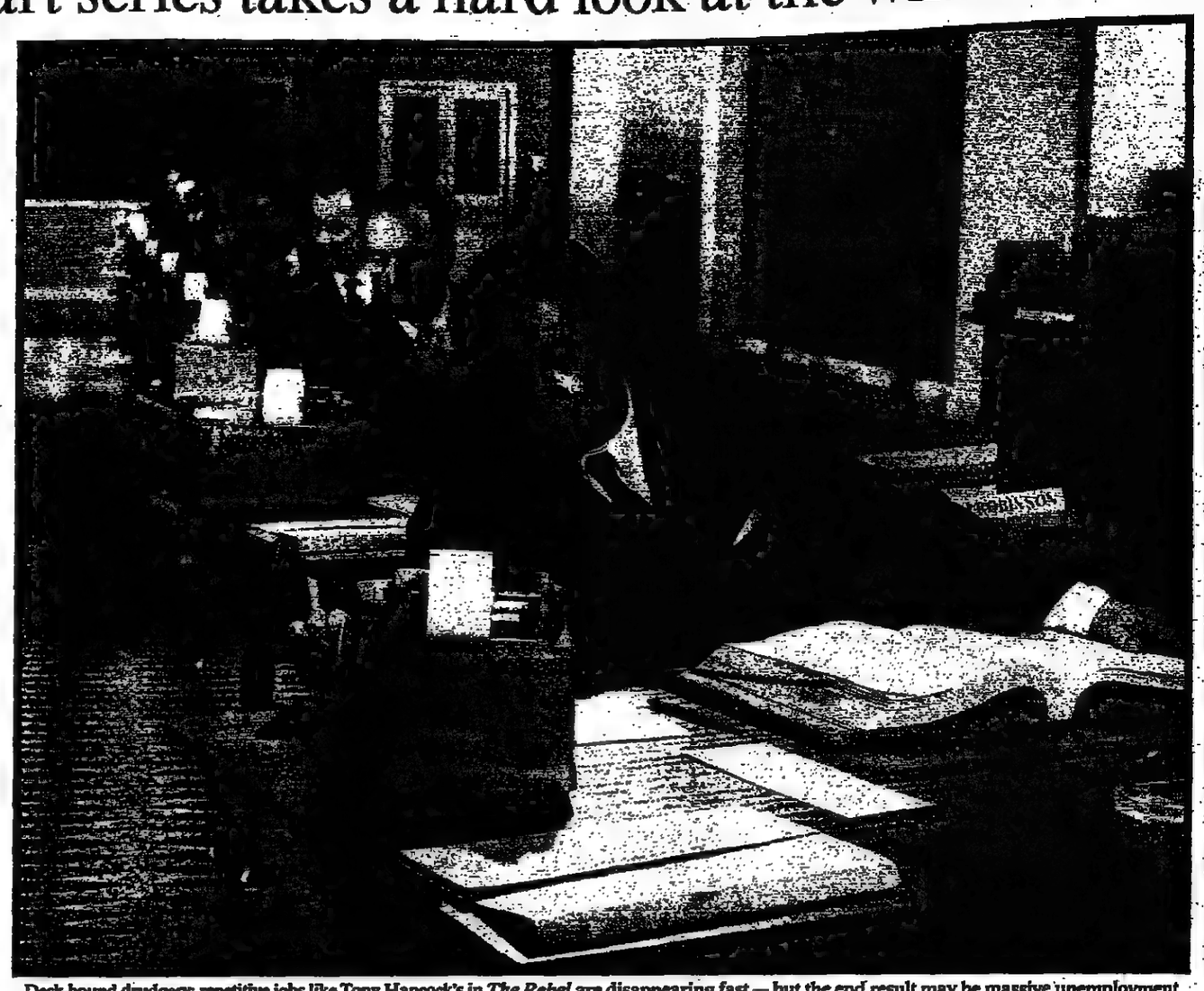
● *The End of Work, by Jeremy Rifkin, is published by Tarcher/Pitnam (£19.99).*

THE FUTURE OF WORK

● Revolution in the workplace

TOMORROW

● What future for our children?



Desk-bound drudgery: repetitive jobs like Tony Hancock's in *The Rebel* are disappearing fast — but the end result may be massive unemployment

A fit environment

LIFE IN THE OFFICE

Last century, fewer than one in a hundred people worked in an office. Today, most of the working population spend their day surrounded by filing cabinets, moaning about the coffee machine and trying to find the paperclips.

Office life is a 20th-century phenomenon, but, according to a new book, many of us are working in inefficient, unhealthy environments that are not remotely cost-effective, leading to grumpy staff and equally gloomy profits. Judith Verity, co-author of *Eleven Steps to a User-Friendly Office*, says that sensible ergonomics can make the office both a cheerful and profitable place.

"In the past, a building used to be about status rather than whether it was the best building for the people inside," says Ms Verity. "Now we are realising that you need to make the office more helpful for the people who work there."

The authors spent years interviewing office staff and management to find out their grievances. Interestingly, the chief complaint was not about chaotic computers and erratic filing systems but about feelings of isolation and a lack of say in how their workspace was organised.

"Many people feel trapped at work," explains Ms Verity. "Technology has taken over from people and we have retreated from it rather than using it to improve our working life, and to make us more effective. You need to make staff feel, for example, that where they are sitting was where they would have chosen to sit."

In one open-plan office staff had been given partitions which they could put up around themselves. "Most people created little walls around their workspace, boxing themselves in. But as the weeks passed, the partitions gradually came down until they were totally removed. The point is that the staff needed to know they were there, but that they had made the decision not to use them. It made them feel they were given a choice," Ms Verity says.

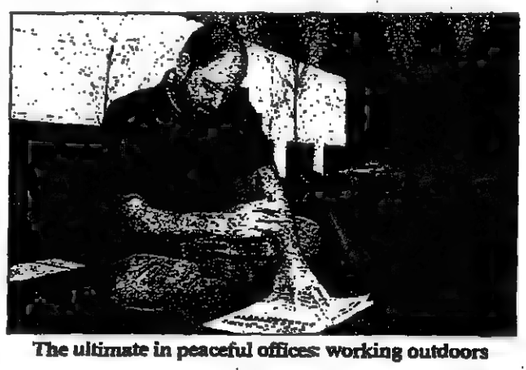
Some basic questions that anyone setting up an office should ask are whether staff have the right tools they need to do the job and are comfortable throughout the day. Are the lighting and temperature right? Is the stationery readily available? Computers and desk layouts aside, peripheral items can be the lifeblood of an office. At a large telecommunications company, the coffee machine was removed at a time when the department was buzzing with rumours of redundancies.

Staff who had previously traded gossip around the coffee machine retreated into their offices with their kettles and teabags and morale visibly sagged. Only after a management consultant visited the office was the solution found. "He said: 'Bring back the coffee machine. The coffee's awful but it was doing much more than supplying drinks'," Ms Verity says.

She also offers tips on establishing an environmentally-friendly office: re-using envelopes, getting rid of disposable cups and stopping junk mail. And spider plants and creeping ivy dotted around the desks are not only ornamental but are good at soaking up toxins such as formaldehyde from the air.

Health and safety are also highlighted. "There are certain basic things any office manager can do to make sure the office is relatively healthy. Bad air circulation, overcrowding, irritating noises and poor temperature control all contribute to a bad atmosphere and more sick days."

Ultimately, the authors recommend flexibility. "With all the changes in working patterns, a user-friendly office needn't be a traditional office," Ms Verity says. "An office can be a place where staff check in only once a fortnight, and spend the rest of the time working from home or teleworking. The key is that it needs to be somewhere they feel safe and relaxed."



The ultimate in peaceful offices: working outdoors

KATHRYN KNIGHT

● Eleven Steps to a User-Friendly Office *by Judith Verity and Ian Elliot Shircore is published by Bloomsbury in May.*

Rewarding high-flyers could be a costly error

Winner takes toll

SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

THE Irish elk, which grew antlers 12ft across, has something in common with today's top earners, according to an economist from Princeton University. Professor Robert Frank believes that the huge rewards now available to the top people in almost every field are a similar example of evolution gone awry, rewarding a few with disproportionate pay packets and sending the wrong signals to the rest.

Professor Frank, the co-author of a book published last year, *The Winner-Take-All Society*, told a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that technological change is partly to blame. When we can all hear Luciano Pavarotti in stereo, lesser tenors tend to be ignored; it costs just as much to make a record by a second-ranker as it does to record Pavarotti.

This trend, long visible in entertainment and sport, has now spread to industry, the City, the law and even medicine. Professor Frank said that since 1973, the top 1 per cent of wage earners in America had captured more than 40 per cent of all economic growth, and the chief executives of large companies now earned more than 220 times as much as the average worker, compared with 40 times in the 1960s.

The attraction of these lucrative jobs was tempting graduates to pursue "top positions in law, finance, consulting and other overcrowded arenas, in the process forsaking careers in engineering, manufacturing and teaching. In which an infusion of additional talent would yield greater benefit to society", he says. "As the rich get richer, more and more individuals are drawn into the pursuit of a limited number of superstar positions."

Simple greed is one reason for huge salaries, he said, but not the only one. Technology has allowed talented people to extend their reach, through better communications and transport. If you are rich and dying, and only the best doctor in the world can save your life, he can demand his own price. The same applies to financial advisers for companies threatened by a takeover. In that case, only success matters, so huge fees will be paid to those who can deliver it.

In conventional labour markets, you might pay half as much for somebody who would do the job half as well. But that does not apply in these winner-take-all markets. Does the emergence of superstars in so many fields matter? It irritates the rest of us, unless we happen to belong to the elect. But to Professor Frank it has more damaging effects, because it sends the wrong signals.

"People are pathologically inclined to overrate themselves," he says. "So they all think they are going to reach the top. All we ever hear about are the successful ones — the many more failures are out of view. If the rewards were less spectacular, then maybe people wouldn't join the queue to earn them."

Queen bees in hive society

FEW societies are divided so rigidly as that of the honeybee. The queens lay millions of eggs, while the workers rear them. This rigid hierarchy is maintained by chemicals produced by the queen's mandibular gland. But workers also produce very similar compounds — so what exactly makes a worker, and what a queen?

In a recent issue of *Science*, a team from Simon Fraser University in British Columbia and the US Department of Agriculture has teased out the differences.

The results show that both types synthesise their compounds, which are fatty acids, from the same starting point, stearic acid. But the queen's acid passes through an oxidation procedure which neither workers nor young virgin queens can manage. The result is a subtly different compound with very different effects.

What's the

All levels.

difference between

Conversational French to Business French.

us and other

In your company or in our school.

French teachers?

One to one or group tuition.

We offer

For a brochure and further advice call Elisabeth Michau

0171 723 0020.

business class.

Alliance Française de Londres,
1 Dorset Square,
London NW1 6PU.

Alliance Française

Sponsored by the French Government

NILE CRUISES

Explore the Lower Kingdoms of the Nile, visit Luxor, Edfu, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Valley of Kings & Queens.

MS OSIRIS 7nts £399 03-31 May 1996 inc. or
MS RA II (5★) 7 nts £480 31 May - 17 July 1996 inc.

EGYPT COMBINATIONS

•Discover the Pyramids, dive in the Red Sea, wander thru Aga Khan's mausoleum.
•Enjoy a Kenyan Safari.

ALL AVAILABLE TO TRULY EXPERIENCE A PLETHORA OF SIGHTS.

Somak HOLIDAYS Contact your local agent or call 0181 423 3000

ABTA V5319 AITO ATOL 2550

AA

Join now from only £39*

To join, call free now on 0500 444 999 Ask for Extension 6069. Immediate cover available.

Internet: http://www.theaa.co.uk/theaa

*£39 price is £5 off the cash-payment price of £44, and includes a £5 first year registration fee. It applies only to new members joining with Breakdown Option 100 and paying annually by direct debit or credit card continuous authority. Membership is subject to the Rules of the AA and full details of services, benefits and restrictions can be found in the current AA Handbook available for inspection at any AA Shop.

TO OUR MEMBERS WE'RE THE 4TH EMERGENCY SERVICE

the losers in a revolution that is turning our working lives upside-down

Shifting into a lower gear

THE CAREER BALANCING ACT

It is the middle of my working day. My four-year-old son is sitting at my feet playing with his toys as the CD on my computer pumps out *The Runaway Train* (his favourite).

Downstairs in the basement kitchen our lunch is cooking. Upstairs, I can hear the muffled sounds of my elder daughter squealing on the phone to a friend and the rhythmic thumps of my younger daughter practising her gym routine.

Outside the window of my office, I can see the daffodils breaking through the earth in the otherwise barren, toy-strewn garden.

All this probably sounds more idyllic than it is because the game my son is playing is *Go, Go, Power Rangers*, which involves him being the saviour of the universe and me being the evil alien Goldar.

I comfort myself, as I abandon work for the fourth time this morning and chase him screaming into the hall, that at least nowadays we are friends. And perhaps as important I am my own friend too.

Three years ago this week, I gave up full-time employment. My life until then had been like a very expensive television advertisement for that most Eighties of concepts, "having it all". Nannies, Marks & Spencer ready meals, three cars (his, mine and the nanny's), Nicole Farhi suits, takeaway suppers, 12-hour working days, overseas working trips, health club workouts, client dinners and, at the very end of my daily schedule, brief moments of quality time snatched with my children.

It was only when I reached an awkward impasse in my career that it even occurred to me that my life lacked balance. But when I finally left my job, slinking home with wounded pride and a redundancy cheque, I began to see the madness of my previous life.

The role of home-based mother/writer is much more satisfying than that of guilt-ridden career woman with children. And so much more cost effective (no nannies, Marks & Spencer ready meals, takeaways, Nicole Farhi suits . . .)

In America, they have a word for what I have done. They call it downshifting. Recently it has become rather fashionable. Several British publishing houses have commissioned books on "how to downshift", and there are signs that in the late Nineties more and more people will be rethinking their lives and opting for an existence in which work and home are more equally balanced.

What has precipitated the move towards what the Americans also term "voluntary simplification" is the increasingly obvious fact that as we creep towards the 21st century, the idea of a job for life has become outmoded.

As big corporations downsize themselves — making a vast number of people redundant and then "outsourcing" their labour — there is no such thing as job security. Moreover, for those left within large organisations, an increased workload coupled with a fear of redundancy has given rise to what Cary Cooper, Professor of Organisational Psychology at Umist, calls "presenteeism": men and women working 12, 13 or 14-hour days in their bid to be seen to be committed to a job they dread losing.

> The only visible perk is that I can work in pyjamas

And out of this changing, working world has come the downshifting movement. Downshifters are primarily people who, after being made redundant, find they do not want to or are not able to opt back into full-time employment. Instead they create a different way of living. But they are also, increasingly, those workers who are so overstressed within their full-time jobs that they make their own decision to move away from conventional employment.

Downshifting has already attracted a degree of sneering derision from those who insist that it is just a middle-class elitist phenomenon. But by the end of the century, half of Britain's workforce is expected to be self-employed. Already five million people work from home. The Henley Centre for Forecasting has predicted that by the end of the Nineties, a third of all workers will be based in their own homes.

Of course my own journey from career woman to Goldar, evil alien, has not been without its difficulties. Downshifters cannot expect to maintain the status they might have enjoyed when working in some grand organisation. The only obvious perks in my present life are being able to load the washing machine between phone calls and to sit at my desk in my pyjamas. No company credit cards, no company car, no long expense-account lunches, no four weeks paid holiday a year.

And it can be difficult to adjust to the fact that you are no longer regarded as a real "player" by your former colleagues. A few weeks ago, when I met for lunch at The Ivy three friends who are still caught up in glamorous, clamorous working lives, it wasn't just my chipped nails, cheap suit and over-eagerness to grab the menu and eat (downshifters don't often go to restaurants) that gave me away. It was my reluctance to drink alcohol and the fact that I kept glancing at my watch to check I wasn't going to be late for the school run.

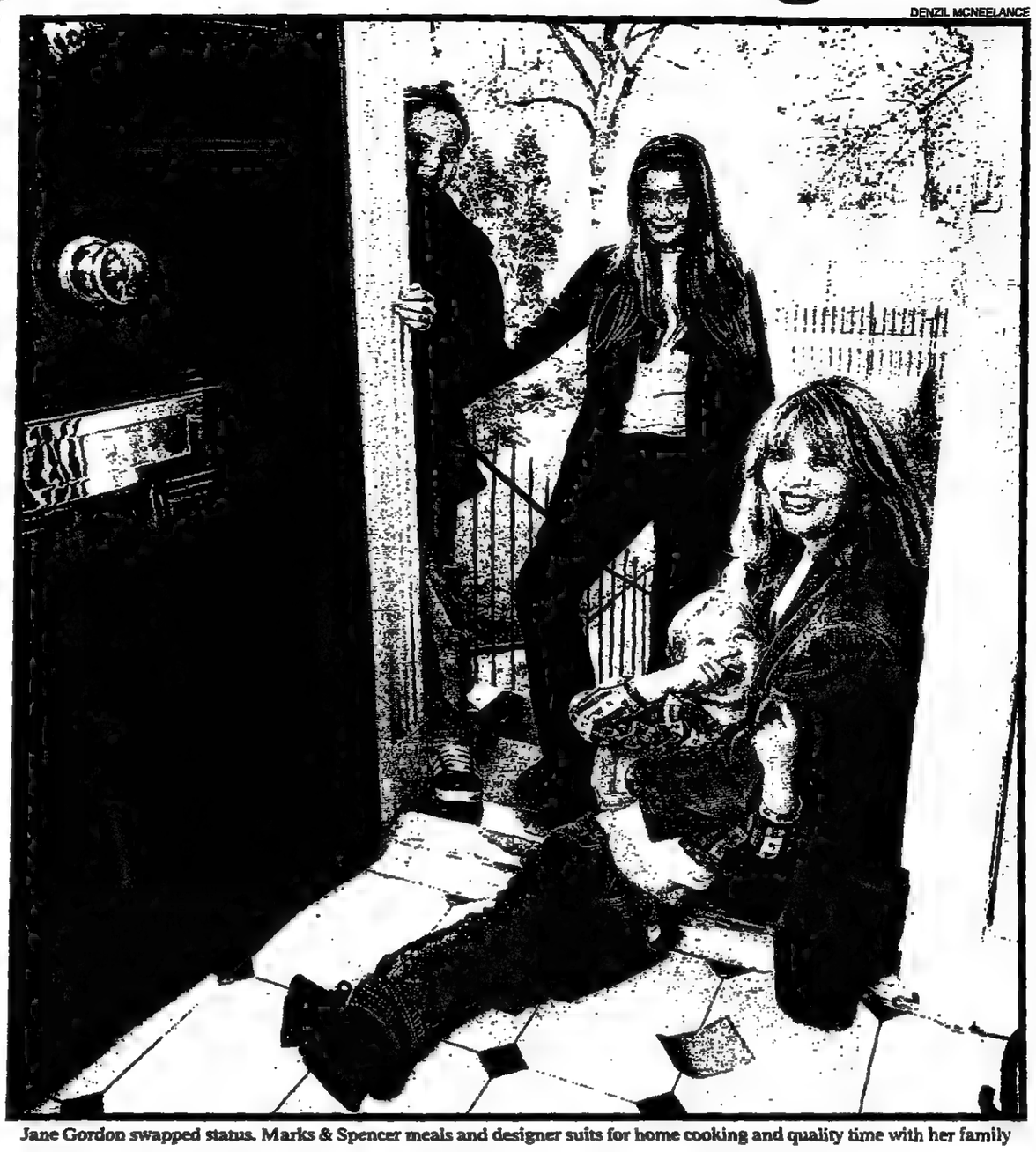
As I left them, still quaffing wine and gossiping at 3pm, they all said how "wonderful it must be to be able to be at home doing nothing".

Recently, I was offered a job opportunity which, in my old padded-shoulder careerist days, I would have grabbed. It involved a big salary, a fabulous package, high status and acceptable working hours. But I was only tempted for a minute. A haunting vision from my past returned to stop me. My younger daughter, then aged seven, sitting at the kitchen table at 3am dressed in her school uniform because she wanted to see me before I left for the office.

As a downshifter, I am probably working harder and having to juggle my life more than ever. But at least now I have full control of the balls.

JANE GORDON

DENZIL MCNEELANCE



Jane Gordon swapped status, Marks & Spencer meals and designer suits for home cooking and quality time with her family

Why we all need a proper role

RETIREMENT

WHEN Peter took early retirement from the advertising agency he got a shock. Even though at 54 he was sick of office politics, and had looked forward eagerly to getting out, when the time came he felt like a non-person.

The problem was symbolised by that question people always ask: "What do you *do*?" Peter never got it right as he fumbled answers about "used to be in advertising . . . retired now". With every such conversation, he felt more and more old. Every time the word "retirement" passed his lips, he would experience another small increment of age and weariness.

Within two months of retiring, Peter was scanning the jobs pages and desperately ringing up old contacts. All the hobbies which his wife and children urged upon him — golf, gardening, painting — seemed to him purposeless and unenjoyable without the background rhythm of work.

Simply put, his problem, in common with many thousands of others, is that his notion of himself as a person is based on just two things — job and parenthood. Now he is unemployed and his children are about to leave home. Suddenly, he is faced with the awesome question: "Who am I?"

Peter needs an answer to the question "What do you do?" This means that he needs a proper role — that is, to be needed by others in some practical way. Nobody needs him on the golf course.

Respect, status, daily structure and, of course, the companionship of shared endeavour. These are basic ingredients for human wellbeing. For too many of us these are tied to just one job in one company and if we lose that, we lose the lot.

After a year of "retirement", Peter found his role, status, structure and companionship. He went back to university to study archaeology and now works unpaid on archaeological digs: this summer he will spend a month in Turkey on a site.

He never uses the word "retirement" now, and says that its use should be as unacceptable for anyone under 80 as it would if applied to a teenager. It is a poisonous, debilitating word, he maintains, one which drags people down and ages them prematurely with its connotations of passivity. We have strong expectations for teenagers to develop roles, skills and careers. We should have similar expectations of those in their second adulthood.

IAN ROBERTSON

Are you sick of your job?

HOW TO TAKE CONTROL

Does the world seem rather drab? Are you lacking a sense of excitement, interest or achievement? If your answer is yes, then you are more likely to be in a low-status job with relatively little control.

This is the conclusion of a study of more than 10,000 civil servants in Whitehall, presented at a conference in London earlier this month by Dr Stephen Stansfeld of the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at University College London. The meeting, "Psychology of Mood and Well-being", jointly organised by the Medical Research Council and Unilever, is recognition of the fact that the "feel-good" factor is essential not only for economic growth, but also for mental and physical health.

The so-called "Whitehall II" study is the successor to a previous study of civil servants. The first Whitehall study found that the lowest clerical grades had three times the death rate of the highest administrative grades over a ten-year period — a difference only one-third accounted for by smoking, obesity and high blood pressure.

So if bad habits are not the main killers of the working class, what is? One possible factor is control. Having control over your working life reduces your risk of suffering a wide range of illnesses. Answer these sample questions from a standard questionnaire to see how much control you have.

☐ Do you have a choice in deciding what you do at work? Yes/No

☐ Do you have a choice in deciding how you do your work? Yes/No

☐ Others take decisions concerning your work. Yes/No

☐ "I can decide when to take a break." Yes/No

☐ "I have a great deal of say in planning my work environment." Yes/No

☐ "I have a say in choosing with whom I work." Yes/No

If you answered "Yes" to most of these questions, then you have high control over your work, and the chances are that you are in a relatively high-status, middle-class job. If you answered "No" to most of them, then you are probably in a relatively low-status job, and are more likely to suffer a wide range of illnesses, because feelings of powerlessness depress the immune system and disrupt the cardiovascular system.

Of course there is more to life than work, and statistics give us trends, not laws. Dr Stansfeld's team found that the link between class and happiness was also related to how much social support people had outside work, how hard-up they were, and whether they had suffered major life-shaping events such as bereavement.

Do you have to stay in a lousy job? Millions do, but they do not all become miserable and sick. Get fit, learn to relax by taking up yoga or meditation, and start really talking to your partner if you have one. But most importantly, don't fall into the trap of equating your job with yourself. A bad job is a means to an end, not a statement about your worth as a person.

IAN ROBERTSON

NETWORK

Reluctant commuters on the Tube

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
MARE ST. LONDON E8 4SA.
(Charity Ref. No. 231323)

Dear Anonymous Friends,

You did not wish your gifts to be spoiled by human words of thanks. Their value gleams in the untold relief you silently provide.

We have honoured your trust, and always will.

Sister Superior.

CAR INSURANCE
1ST CLASS CUSTOMER SERVICE
A customers view
"I have been insured for 25 years and have never had service to match yours."
serviceline
CALL FREE 0800 00 41 21 for one to one service.

The Complete Mobile Office

VODAFONE
HEWLETT PACKARD
NOKIA

For People On The Go

HP OmniGo 700LX

The HP Omnigo 700LX is an integrated productivity tool for mobile business professionals that delivers communications, business and time management functions, anytime, anywhere.

Hewlett-Packard, Nokia Mobile Phones with Vodafone airtime have leveraged their experience to provide an integrated device based on their leading handheld products.

The product design allows for ease of use with two devices, which can either be used separately or seamlessly integrated to give you instant access to voice, cellular fax, e-mail and Short Message Services, provided by Vodafone.

HP OmniGo 700LX

Features:

You can really go places with Vodafone's International digital network.

- Works with standard Nokia 2110 GSM or PCN phone which can be 'docked' onto the OmniGo 700LX
- 1PCMCIA Type II slot allows extra mass storage capacity on flash cards (up to 80Mb)
- 2Mb standard RAM
- RS-232 port and IrDA-compatible infra-red port
- 80 x 25 character FTN display (640 x 2090 pixels)

Complete Software Suite Built-In

- Send and receive fax via Vodafone data network
- ccMail Mobile (with remote address book upgrade) for easy access to electronic mail
- Short message management with built-in SMS application
- Data Comm with terminal emulation, file transfer and scripting
- Lotus® 1-2-3® version 2.4
- Intuit's Pocket Quicken for easy management of financial accounts
- Appointment book for easy time management
- Phone book with automatic dial via Vodafone on GSM
- Note taker
- Memo editor with outlining and formatting
- Real-time clock, world time, stopwatch
- Advanced graphical HP calculator
- MS-DOS 5.0 to run PC-DOS software off the shelf
- Travelling Software's LapLink Remote Access for PC connectivity
- Two games for after-hours entertainment

RRP £799.00
excluding VAT
Nokia 2110 not included in price

Telephone (0345) 400 300
Solution Point
Facsimile (0181) 391 5657

Solution Point is a division of Northamber plc

E & O.E. © Solution Point 1996. All prices exclude VAT and carriage. All trademarks acknowledged.

Matthew Parris

■ We are surrounded by millions of other lives — yet what are they to us, or we to them?

I was there on a visit and saw the weather. Stumbling ahead with Roger, in the pitch black, I saw that the track in front of us suddenly ceased to be solid, and leapt instead over stones, with a hiss and roar. After the rains, a torrent had cut the road. We stopped to let the others catch up, wondering what to do.

We were in deep forest: the *Yungas* of Bolivia where the Andes drop in warm wooded valleys into the rainforest. It was the end of a long and punishing day's walk, but we were still two hours from our destination. Darkness had overtaken us, and so had fatigue.

Everyone gathered, the silence of the tropical night broken by the rush of water.

What we did and how it ended is another story. Here I simply want to describe the next unforgettable moment. All around us the blackness was filled with an incredible explosion of pinpricks of light.

I suppose the fireflies had been visible before. But exhausted, heads down as we trudged, we had barely noticed. Now, we lifted our eyes to take stock, and it was as if a fireworks display had been organised for us. On and on it went, tiny bombs of luminescence exploding in clusters around us. For a few seconds we forgot our troubles to marvel.

What is a firefly? Some sort of airborne worm, I guess. They say the lightshow is a desperate and urgent quest to find a mate and breed before the insect dies. This frenzy of flashing, then, only appeared to be orchestrated. Really it was the coincidence of millions of lovesick fireflies each separately engaged in the greatest struggle of its life. For each, a few evenings like this and it would all be over; for each, it was a solo, virtuoso display. For us, it was an extravaganza: an apparent symphony.

On the occasional stone around us lay already an insect glowing feebly, light failing, dying. And we walked on, walking out on a thousand intense private dramas and rounding each corner to a new burst of fireworks, a thousand new life and death struggles. What were we to these insects? Once when David lit up a cigarette, an amorous firefly hovered, momentarily hopeful by the flame. Otherwise they were oblivious to our passage among them. They did not know about us, and they did not need to.

Tourism — and is our passage through the years anything more? — is like this. Briefly touching a million other stories, our own skims off their surface like a flat stone over water, using the tops of other people's waves to bounce from, never pausing for closer acquaintance lest we sink.

Sometimes I should like to stop — to freeze the frame — at the side of one dying firefly and know all about it: about its life, everything, from birth through illumination to darkness, its whole story.

Sometimes I glimpse from the window of my bus an Indian peasant woman with her llama, walking alone in the middle of nowhere, from nowhere, it seems, to nowhere; and I should like to stop the bus and know all about her. Where is she going? Who is she? What is her story? Perhaps, catching sight of my face in the window, she would like to stop her journey and know about me.

But we cannot. We must skim off each other in flight, or we would both sink. In the covered Indian market in La Paz, the women will not allow people to photograph them, seeing in the camera's flash an attempt to seize, to capture, to sink in. So it is, but the flash fails, capturing little. It becomes for the woman only the flash of a firefly, nothing to do with her.

> In life's journey, we have time to do little more than skim the surface of each other

We did arrive, at the end of that evening's walk, at our destination. Sitting in the lighted doorway of the only open bar in the darkened town square of Yanacach, we were no doubt observed over our beers by a hundred pairs of eyes through a score of windows: a temporary, temporarily lit tableau. Just a flash, really, for them: strangers, gringos, soon gone, skimming off their lives as they skimmed off our story.

"Our" story? But who were we? Twelve people whose coincidence as a group was temporary, contingent. Our own stories ran together for ten days in Bolivia, diverged at Heathrow, and will almost certainly never converge again in that shape. How much did each of us really know of any other? Almost nothing. We had little time, no wish, to dive beneath the surface.

On our last night in La Paz, on Friday, we gathered for a celebratory meal in an expensive restaurant in the penthouse of a sky-rise hotel. La Paz is like a bowl, the poorer suburbs climbing the steep walls of the valley. At night, from our rooftop restaurant on the floor of this bowl, the lights of the poor twinkled all around. That night, however, in the middle of one of the walls of pinpricked light, there was a small black hole. Part of a hillside suburb of adobe huts had slipped in a landslide after the rain, killing 30 people, burying all their homes. Sipping our wine we speculated on whether the hole in the light was that suburb. Then the conversation moved on — those lives or deaths too just a flash for us, a passing flash of black.

Peter Riddell listens to Tony Blair as he refines his approach to government with America's policy wonks

Big government and the Anxious Middle

Tony Blair is at last coming to terms with the likelihood that within 12 months, or less, he will be prime minister. He remains cautious, privately as well as publicly, about not taking the election for granted. But his three-day visit to America dramatised the change in expectations among those whose business is power. He is now being treated as a prime minister in waiting. One result, so far largely unappreciated, is that he has clarified his strategy about what Labour would do in government.

Despite talk about forcing the Tories out of office, Mr Blair seems to be in no hurry. He has plenty to do — as Clare Short's characteristic candour over taxes showed yesterday — but he has the time and flexibility to do it. By contrast, the Tory recriminations over Thursday's by-election sound increasingly like a death rattle. John Major is yet again having to concentrate on survival.

One of the advantages of accompanying political leaders overseas — apart from the pleasure of seeing Washington at cherry-blossom time — is to observe them far more closely than is possible at home. Watching and talking to Mr Blair, I was struck not just by his ability to charm the business, media and Democrat elites but also by how surprised, almost daunted, he was by the degree of interest in his views. It is, for example, very unusual for both the Secretary of State and the Treasury Secretary to attend a meeting between the President and an opposition leader.

When being driven to the airport to fly home on Friday evening, Mr Blair wondered how different his visit would have been if he had been Prime Minister. Surprisingly little, is the view of veteran Washington hands. He might have been given lunch at the White House. But the discussion would probably have been less interesting, since a checklist of the diplomatic business of the day would have dominated the meeting. There would not have been time for the exchanges on political and economic strategy that took place on Friday. These were vividly and aptly described by Mike McCurry, the White House spokesman, as a "wonkathon", since both Bill Clinton and Mr Blair are, in the Washington lingo, policy wonks, fascinated by the details of policies.

Their discussion about how to deal with economic and social insecurity matched the central theme of Mr Blair's comments throughout his visit. Most of this was inevitably less newsworthy than his claim that Labour is the party of the centre or the by-election result, but that does not make it any less significant in the long term.

Mr Blair believes the main challenge for a Labour government will be handling the increased pace of economic and technological change, and the resulting anxieties of people about their jobs, homes and pensions. He has been groping for ways to articulate this. As so often in politics, the message becomes refined not by a grand plan but by repeatedly arguing the case. In January, he floated the idea of the stakeholder economy. The Tories seized on the phrase to claim that Labour favoured giving unions statutory rights in business and the sort of radical changes in the structure of companies and the City advocated by the polemicist Will Hutton.

But Mr Blair has rejected this approach. He accepts the opening up of markets and does not believe they should be restricted, either through protection or through tighter legal regulation of companies. In New York, he talked about not importing into Britain the rigidities of the labour markets and social security systems of some European countries. His differences with the Right are not over the value of competitive markets, but over the role of the State in ensuring that as many people as possible are equipped to benefit from economic change, notably by promoting training and skills. There is common ground with the Tories about, say, education for 16 to 19 year-olds, and about obtaining private finance for public projects. But the Tories remain wary about linking their specific initiatives into a broad strategy for attacking insecurity. They believe that economic growth will promote social cohesion, and are reluctant to present the State as having a positive role.

Mr Blair and Mr Clinton have similar views about the role of the State, in contrast to both the anti-government Right and the collectivist Left. The Clinton Administration last week, for example, proposed new measures to safeguard workers' pensions and make them more portable; but it is dubious about the recent ideas of Congressional Democrats for tax and regulatory changes to create socially responsible corporations. There is a fine line between encouraging good practice and restricting the workings of the market.

But, as Mr Clinton pointed out to Mr Blair in their talks, there is the further problem that economic success may not translate into political support. The main beneficiaries of the global economy are those who have been and are likely to vote Republican. A challenge for centre-left parties, or those of the centre as Mr Blair now prefers, is how to ensure that economic success helps those who are likely to vote for them.

The emerging Blair message is, as Mr Clinton said in his State of the Union address, that while "the era of big government is over", there is still a role for government in handling change. There has been much interest among the Blairites, particularly Gordon Brown, in a new book by E.J. Dionne, a *Washington Post* columnist, called *They Only Look Dead: Why Progressives Will Dominate the Next Political Era*. Dionne's thesis is that "Anxious Middle" voters will reject the wholesale anti-government rhetoric of the Newt Gingrich revolution and accept a role for the State in making capitalism work for all. That is essential not only for the success of a second Clinton term, but also if Mr Blair is to have a long period as prime minister.

Mr Brown's secret package

Anatole Kaletsky assesses Labour's claims to economic prudence

Economics ought to be the trump card that guarantees Labour the next election. The years of Tory rule have included the worst two recessions since the 1930s. Even today, male unemployment in Britain is higher than in Germany, Italy or France. Real incomes have grown less since 1979 than in any other 16-year period. And with an unprecedented share of the growth going to the richest 5 per cent, most voters have done even worse than the average.

Yet after all the hardships of the Tory years, Labour leaders know that economics is still the issue that could lose them the election. Indeed, while polls show Labour leading on almost every other policy by 30 percentage points, the gap between the parties on economic management is a negligible 3 points — and ominously shrinking.

Despite their disdain for the Tory record, voters seem utterly unconvinced that Labour could do better. This is understandable, since Labour has visibly shrunk from setting the pace on big economic issues such as interest rates or taxes, not to mention monetary union (of which more later in the week).

KALETSKY'S LABOUR

On monetary policy there is virtually nothing to choose between the parties, which is fine if you believe the Tories have done a fine job of managing demand since 1979. The lodestar for interest rates will continue to be a "clear, low and tough" inflation target "consistent with the targets of other comparable countries". Gordon Brown has some worthy ideas for technical improvements, but in practice he will stick to the Tories' main target: accepting higher inflation would be backsliding; a lower target would be a rod for his own back.

Mr Brown has also promised "a medium-term objective to raise the trend rate of economic growth", but this will be clearly subordinate to the inflation target. Like Kenneth Clarke, he rejects the argument that unemployment can be reduced only by achieving above-trend growth.

Labour leaders believe profoundly that rising unemployment has been caused not by bad demand management but by Britain's structural weaknesses, above all poor skills and low investment. Labour considers skills and education to be the centrepiece of its economic policy. As for investment, Mr Brown believes, like the Tories, that the way to promote investment is to maintain low inflation and stable growth.

In principle, nobody could disagree. But what Labour leaders forget when they promise stability instead of "booms and busts" is that the Tories used exactly the same phrases — and still do today. No Chancellor has ever been more determined than Nigel Lawson to stick to stable objectives and to avoid booms and busts.

The trouble was that he got the objectives wrong: money-supply targets prolonged the first Tory recession, and currency targets caused the second. Perhaps the Treasury has now stumbled upon the perfect inflation target. But experience suggests that Mr Blair is no more likely than John Major to find the nirvana of permanent stability in a simple rule.

Turning to taxes and spending, Labour's willingness to follow in Tory footsteps is easier to understand, but could also cause trouble. Labour does not have an ideological commitment to lower taxes and public spending. But then Tory ideology has not achieved much by way of tax cuts or expenditure control. What Mr Blair does have is a strong pragmatic conviction that voters are unwilling to pay more taxes and that government must therefore live within its present means.

Although Mr Brown refuses to give figures, he knows full well that any increase in the standard rate of income tax or VAT would be suicidal. He has also promised to introduce a new 15 per cent lower tax band, to reduce the Tory tax on fuel, and to reform taxes on capital and utilities. The fuel tax will almost certainly be forgotten, but the lower tax band will doubtless be used in Labour's counterattack against a pre-election Budget. To pay for this new band, as well as to make a gesture against the dramatic skewing of the tax structure in favour of the rich since 1979, Mr Brown will almost certainly raise the top rate.

Mr Blair has offered repeated reassurance that he wants "a system where people can become wealthy through hard work". But officially he has ruled nothing out, except the "punitive" tax rates of the 1970s. Formally, therefore, Labour could still announce a tax just below the 83 per cent top rate brought in by Denis Healey — which is why so many businessmen remain deeply suspicious of Labour and why Mr Blair may be making a tactical blunder in stalling on this issue, and so allowing the Tories to play on that distrust.

But even before Mr Blair speaks out, high earners can turn for reassurance to an unlikely source: the memory of John Smith. After the 1992 election débâcle, Labour leaders realised that high taxes can have an impact not only on the rich but also on those who hope to become richer. As Oscar Wilde said, "If I could buy people for what they are worth and sell them for what they think they are worth, I would soon be the richest man in the world". Today, Labour's tax experts talk constantly about aspirations. But what does this mean in practice?

One safe prediction is that Labour will not try again John Smith's trick of abolishing the ceiling for national insurance contributions to disguise an increase in the top rate of tax. Without that subterfuge, a top rate of tax above the 50 per cent proposed in 1992 is almost out of the question. But a top rate below 50 per cent would not make much sense, since it would cause almost as much political furore for less revenue. So the real question is at what income the new 50 per cent band will bite.

A 50 per cent rate above £50,000 would raise £2.2 billion from half a million taxpayers. At £100,000, the revenue raised would be £1.1 billion, but only 110,000 people would be affected. The final decision will be primarily political rather than economic, since the revenue from a new top tax band is simply not big enough to have much impact on the overall fiscal stance.

Assuming Mr Brown uses the extra revenue from high-rate taxpayers to fund his new 15 per cent band, he will have no leeway on public spending. He has loosely promised to borrow what he spends on public investment — and much tighter constraints will come from the financial markets and the Maastricht rules.

If the Tories deliberately understate public spending when they calculate the scope for 1997 tax cuts, and if Mr Brown feels compelled to match these cuts pound for pound, he could immediately fall foul of these constraints. His alternative is to pre-empt the Tories by announcing his own tax policies — and then to denounce November's Budget as an untrustworthy pre-election ploy. Without such boldness, a Dutch auction of tax cuts based on fictitious spending plans is likely. If he waits for the Tories to set the agenda, Mr Brown should prepare for a fiscal crisis as soon as he opens the books on taking power.

Tomorrow: Education, employment and inequality.

Rock solid

ALTHOUGH he is infamous for making tactless comments while abroad — referring to the Chinese as "slitty-eyed" and the Hungarians as "pot-bellied" — the Duke of Edinburgh has accepted an invitation to Gibraltar next month. While the Rock is a contentious destination for British royalty, he will be guest of honour, reasonably enough, at a gala dinner which celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.

Anglo-Spanish relations over the British colony have been ticklish since it was ceded to Britain by the Spanish in 1713, but the awkwardness has been exacerbated by allegations that drugs are being passed through Gibraltar. Last week the foreign affairs ministry in Madrid summoned the British Ambassador to deliver a strong protest over what it considers to be insufficient action against smuggling.

The Duke will surely recall with a snort the fuss which was made in 1981 when it was announced that the Prince and Princess of Wales were to start their honeymoon in Gibraltar, at which King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain cancelled their plans to attend the wedding.

Gibraltarians will be pleased to see the Duke, especially since the Queen has not visited since 1954. Last year, Joe Bossano, the Chief Minister, was outraged that the Princess Royal had felt unable to accept an invitation to the Island Games. Presumably he can now look forward to some Island Fun.

● *Following my note about the alarming effect of all those Yorkshire puddings and buffet-car breakfasts on the waistline of Norman Lamont (whose wife is appalled), I am happy to report that he is making compromises. He now has scrambled rather than fried eggs on the train north to Harrogate, where he is the Tory candidate.*

"I'll swap you one defector for Clare Short"

THE TIMES DIARY

Merry few

WHILE new Labour was trumpeting an overwhelming victory in Tamworth, analysts in Oxford were marvelling at one of the most miserable turnouts in British electoral history last week.

Just 11 per cent of the electorate turned out to return a new councillor in the central ward of Oxford County Council on Thursday. Only 313 rolled up in person, and another 410 votes were cast by post or proxy in what is believed to be the first election in which absent voters have been in a majority.

I predicted that the whole affair would be a sorry one when I recorded that Labour missed the deadline for nominating a candidate and that the Tory candidate was a student who recently stood for Labour in university elections. The winner, racking up a whopping 373 votes, was Sushila Dhall of the Green Party. Oxford now finds itself unique among county councils in having a Green group. Under the terms of the 1986 Local Government Act, its two councillors must now wrestle to decide who will be the non-hierarchical leader.

Feathers fly

BARNSLEY's most famous son, the incomparable umpire Dickie Bird, doesn't like to be mucked around. He was unamused the other day when he turned up at the studios of *The Big Breakfast* to find that the transvestite comedian Lily Savage wanted to interview him, as is his custom, in bed.

"Do you know I'd only just got there and they wanted me to get into bed to be interviewed by a bloke. And he was dressed up like a woman: a big wig, make-up, nightie, the lot." Protestations from Savage that such hot-blooded types as Frank Bruno and Gary Lineker had been in the bed fell on deaf ears. "I still wasn't going to get into that bed with him. I said if he wanted to interview me he could do it like a man while I sat in a chair."

Dogumentary

TO CELEBRATE its centenary next year, *Country Life* magazine has agreed to let the cameras in for a BBC2 documentary, to be broadcast this coming Christmas. A film crew will start filming in June, and as befits the magazine's image, the several dogs which pad around the high rise offices in Blackfriars are sure to be given a high profile.

Mr Bird: no messing

The editor, Clive Aslet, says only one or two concessions will be made to the presence of the cameras. "We are really shy little creatures here," he whispers, "but we have bought lots of vases, which we will stuff full of flowers to make a good impression. I will also be consulting our fashion department to make sure my wardrobe is up to scratch and I'm practising Jeremy-Isaacs-style tantrums."

● *Currently on a tour of South America the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, thought of an apt gift for one of his hosts, the Argentinian Foreign Minister. The pair went to visit the Iguazu Falls on the border between Argentina and Brazil on Saturday, and afterwards Rifkind handed over a copy of* The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes, *carefully marking the famous fight scene between the detective and Moriarty at the Reichenbach Fall in Switzerland.*

Quite contrary

DUBLIN is abuzz with rumours about whether Mary Robinson will defend her presidency of the Irish Republic next year, or whether she will step up to an even grander role.

A stony silence from the presidential residence in Dublin's Phoenix Park has led to speculation that Mrs Robinson has her eye on a number of high-profile international jobs. She is remaining tight-lipped about her plans, but her trusted adviser, Bride Rosney, says the President will not stay on for a second term.

Mrs Robinson: here's to you

Mrs Robinson, who is only 51, has been tipped as a possible future UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and even as a successor to Boutros Boutros Ghali as Secretary-General. Wags in Ireland are already calling her Mary Mary Robinson.

P·H·S

ISRAEL AT WAR

Peres scorches the ground on which he wants peace

In the midst of the most compelling "peace process" in its history, Israel is at war again. Katyusha rockets hammer down on its northern territory, fired relentlessly from across the border with Lebanon. The Jewish state is girding itself for a prolonged and bloody battle with Hezbollah, the extremist Shia organisation sponsored, armed and funded by Syria and Iran.

This war is not at all like previous wars. Israel takes on its fanatical Shia foes from a position of strength; Israeli casualties, when compared with those of battles past, are remarkably small. Yet the sense of peril, as people in towns like Kiryat Shimona spirit themselves in their thousands to the safety of their underground shelters, is enough to indicate that this crisis far exceeds the ordinary.

Extraordinary, too, is the peril which Lebanese civilians face: Israel has put forward its iron fist, replying to the rain of Hezbollah Katyushas with a well-drilled fierceness of its own. Beirut has been bombed — for the first time in 14 years — as has the Bekaa Valley. Hezbollah bases and outposts are reported to have been hit, although none with convincing precision.

Inevitably, since this war has always been an unrefined one, Lebanese civilians have died. Most regrettably, on Saturday, the Israelis hit an ambulance in Tyre, killing woman and children: the claim that a Hezbollah guerrilla was also in the vehicle will not have convinced the Lebanese that Israel had acted with due care and attention. And Tyre, the old Phonenician port, is already in the process of total evacuation, its residents having been warned to flee by the Israelis in advance of an aerial and maritime attack.

If this all seems very unsavoury, there is also an explanation for it: Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister and succesor to the rock-solid Yitzhak Rabin, has had no choice but to take retaliatory action against Hezbollah. The underlying morality of the aggressive exercise — and its correctness — cannot be open to question.

Israel must defend itself againt external aggressors, be they hostile states or armed, religious terrorists, and Mr Peres is duty-bound to ensure the safety of the people in his charge. The heavy-handedness of the Peres response will, naturally, attract criticism. Even in a context such as Lebanon, where the enemy is not averse to operating from centres of heavy civilian concentration, the death of innocent non-combatants serves only to make the Israeli case more difficult to argue. Sympathy, however, is due to Mr Peres: his own record in office hardly suggests that he is blind to the plight of Lebanese civilians.

Mr Peres's vision for the Middle East has consistently been a humane one and no senior Israeli politician has a better understanding of the Arab world "on the ground" than he does. His Likud opponents in the forthcoming elections, while not the war-mongering ogres of recent, liberal analysis, are much less likely to take Israel forward into a newer era than he is. For this reason, Mr Peres needs to make war on Hezbollah — and to win with conviction. But he must make this latest war with infinite caution, or he will scorch the ground on which he later hopes to sow a wider peace.

VERONESE VERITIES

Say no to a new exchange-rate mechanism

During the meeting of European finance ministers in Verona last week France led the calls for a punitive system designed to prevent EU currencies outside a single currency depreciating too far below the euro. In a perhaps unintended admission of the single currency's vulnerability to the operation of ordinary economics, the French representative, Jean Arthuis, said that plans for monetary union were reaching "a very dangerous stage". The solution, he added, was to stop countries outside flouting the rules, "polluting the system" and earning "unjustified windfalls". M Arthuis might have sounded menacing, but for two snags: his economics are nonsense and his threats will not work.

There are very few rules governing the conduct of states which choose to stay outside the single currency. If countries which wish to join after the new currency has been created accept further rules, that is their choice. If M Arthuis thinks that the fragile ecosystem of the euro is liable to be polluted, then he might have the grace to acknowledge that the designers of monetary union should have worried about that problem before now.

Britain and Italy have certainly enjoyed some economic success since their enforced departures from the first version of the exchange-rate mechanism, but it stretches credulity to call this a "windfall". It stretches the concept of fairness beyond reason to suggest that governments might have to suffer as a result of events which they were unable to prevent. As Kenneth Clarke could have told his French colleague, sterling's expulsion from the ERM did damage to the Cabinet's credibility which hurts ministers to this day.

The feeblest of the threats waved in Mr Clarke's face in Verona was the strict interpretation of the clause in the Maastricht treaty which insists that states wishing to join the single currency must first complete two years in the ERM. EU ministers or officials who hope to influence debate here by saying that Britain should jump back into the ERM without delay are either suffering from delusions or muddling Britain with another country altogether. With Sir James Goldsmith polishing his election machine in one corner and claims that more Tory MPs will defect to the left coming from the other, the Prime Minister is in no position to move an inch towards the ERM. Nor should he.

The Finnish Government has made a clear commitment to its own parliament that it will not re-enter the ERM; the Swedish Government is equally reluctant. The writers of the Maastricht treaty rightly acknowledged that EU exchange rates are matters "of common interest" but declined to provide the kind of powers which M Arthuis and his like seek. Artificially harmonious agreements between 14 countries such as emerged in Verona do a disservice to the important questions posed by monetary union by inflating the importance of general statements of intention. If a euro zone comes into existence, currencies outside may — depending on circumstances — be devalued against the new European currency. All that appears to have been agreed in Verona was that this should be avoided. The devil lies in the detail to come.

The drivers of the single currency train may like to say that they are picking up speed as they leave the station. But they have still not found a way to drag Britain, or any other country which does not wish to join the journey, towards the political disaster which monetary union represents.

SCOTLAND'S SCAR

The lesson of Culloden for the nationalists of today

A dark moor a few miles south of what is now one of Britain's fastest growing cities stands barren — bleak memorial not just to hundreds of brave men who were killed there, but the culture butchered with them. Culloden, just outside Inverness, saw the definitive defeat 250 years ago tomorrow of Charles Edward Stuart's pretensions to the throne. Success at Culloden underpinned the commercially confident rule of the Hanoverian monarchs. But the end of the Jacobite adventure led also to the dismemberment of the distinctive culture of the Scottish Highlands. A state grappling now with the problems of preserving diversity while embracing progress may learn something still from that difficult and poignant time.

Culloden, although a thousand shortbread tins might tell a different story, was not an English victory over the Scots but the final Hanoverian defeat of the Stuart insurgents. It was a clash between dynasties and cultures, not nations. More Scots fought for Butcher Cumberland than Bonnie Prince Charlie. But although not defeated, Scotland was changed for ever by Culloden.

Scotland's restlessness within the Union which had marked the arrangement's first forty years was replaced by a positive engagement. The second half of the 18th century was the age of the Scottish Enlightenment when some of the finest brains in Britain were in Edinburgh; from David Hume and James Boswell to Adam Smith and Robert Burns. The enlightenment gave Scotland a certain idea of itself; shrewd, sceptical and enterprising, that sprang from the predominantly Presbyterian and Whiggish Lowlands. But that ascendancy involved suppressing the other Scotland, above the Highland line. A sense of the troubled other self has permeated Scottish literature since then, from the fearsome doppelganger in Hogg's *Confessions of a Justified Sinner* to Stevenson's *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*.

The Gaelic, Catholic, still feudal but sophisticated culture of the Highlands was brutally put down. Cumberland outlawed the haunting Gaelic language and distinctive highland dress, studded the glens with garrisons and decapitated the clans. The cowing of the Highlands led, in due course, to their clearing as lairds drove thousands off the land that had sustained families for generations and replaced them with sheep. It was, in the ugly phrase of another age, an ethnic cleansing.

Ever since Culloden the Highlands have sent their sons away. Many prospered in the Empire to which the Union gave them access. Now there is no empire but the human tide has been reversed by time. A new generation of Highlanders, and incomers, are prospering at home.

Fish farming, forestry, sport and the telecoms revolution have woven a new pattern of rural working. Westminster governments have contributed to creating an atmosphere of enterprise and spent millions reversing Gaelic's decline with grants for broadcasting and education. The Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth, has embarked on imaginative land reform to give crofters their own "wee bit hill and glen". The balance is still delicate but the Union which stimulated the Lowlands is now helping to sustain the Highlands its soldiers once scarred.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Alleged brutality to 'boat people'

From the Chief Executive of the Refugee Council

Sir, On April 18, the Malaysian Government will begin a mass deportation by ship of up to 2,000 Vietnamese who originally fled there from Vietnam as "boat people". They have been refused refugee status or settlement in other countries, and — although desperately unwilling to comply — have been told that they have no alternative but to return to Vietnam.

They are the last of over 250,000 Vietnamese who have sought refuge in Malaysia since 1975. It is important to pay tribute to the Malaysian Government for the honourable way in which, on the whole, they have responded to this humanitarian crisis.

It is all the more important that the utmost regard should be paid to the safety and dignity of the remaining Vietnamese. Unfortunately, the Refugee Council fears this may not be the case.

We have recently received detailed reports about the methods by which Malaysian police have suppressed disturbances in a Vietnamese refugee camp near Kuala Lumpur. It is strongly alleged that on January 18 Malaysian police "aimed and fired indiscriminately" towards longhouses in the camp occupied by Vietnamese. One man died, seven others, including a 15-year-old girl, were wounded by gunfire. When the wounded were rushed out of the longhouse to receive medical relief, it is said that they were further beaten to unconsciousness by police.

Women and children who were not involved in rioting were indiscriminately tear-gassed, it is alleged, and 38 "ringleaders", having been badly beaten, were later made to confess their mistakes publicly and to encourage the rest to choose "voluntary" repatriation to Vietnam.

It is not too late for the Malaysian Government to set up an inquiry into these allegations. It is vital that the Government ensures that such methods cannot be used again in the crucial weeks to come. Hong Kong responded to similar allegations by setting up an independent group to monitor deportations. We urge the Malaysian Government to do likewise.

Yours etc,
NICK HARDWICK,
Chief Executive,
The Refugee Council,
3 Bondway, SW8.
April 9.

Caucasian conflict

From Commander David Childs, RN

Sir, Baroness Cox (letter, April 9) has done much to alleviate the suffering of the population of Armenia. Those of us trying to emulate her good work in Azerbaijan realise only too well that in this region suffering knows no boundaries — either national, religious or ethnic.

The facts are that 20 per cent of Azerbaijan is occupied by a foreign power, Armenia, and as a result one in seven of the country's population is either a displaced person or refugee living in appalling conditions. These people with terrible dignity graciously accept what aid they receive. It is not much.

The Azeris were not subject to an historic global diaspora and so, unlike the Armenians, do not have expatriates in high international positions of wealth, power and influence. They, their nation, and the region would best be served by their harmonious return to their homelands where many of their towns and villages have been devastated.

The successful accomplishment of that homecoming will depend on co-operation between Armenia and Azerbaijan, which can only be achieved through conflict resolution and reconciliation. We, who are privileged to be in a position to offer help, must continue to do so with an impartiality based on present needs and future expectations and not past grievances.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CHILDS (Director),
World Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief,
Europa House,
13-17 Ironmonger Row, EC1.
April 10.

Watchers of the skies

From Mr Bob Mizon, FRAS

Sir, My heart went out to Mr Derek Duncan (letter, April 2; see also letters, April 5, 11) who was unable to observe any detail in Comet Hyakutake. From a dark place, the tail could be seen with the unaided eye to stretch across at least 40 degrees of the night sky.

If the Department of the Environment, whose current slogan is "Wasting Energy Costs the Earth", would agree to take action on waste upward light from indifferently-aimed public and private lamps, Mr Duncan and millions of others who suffer from needless sky-glow might be able to see more of their heritage above.

Having written to *The Times*, Mr Duncan should now aim his ink at the DoE. I hope all other disappointed observers will do the same.

Yours sincerely,
BOB MIZON (Co-ordinator,
British Astronomical Association
Campaign for Dark Skies),
38 The Vineries,
Colehill, Wimborne, Dorset.
April 11.

Conflict over sentencing proposals

From His Honour C. D. Chapman, QC

Sir, The Lord Chief Justice believes that a greater probability of being caught would be a greater deterrent than minimum sentences (reports, March 7, 8, April 13; letters, March 12, 19, April 1). I agree. What can the Home Office do to increase the chances of criminals being brought to justice, apart from making the police more efficient?

One of the most helpful measures which seems to have escaped their attention in all the numerous Criminal Justice Acts passed in recent years is a simple rule of evidence: to make the statement of a person called as a witness itself admissible in evidence.

At present, if a witness's testimony is contrary to his statement, he can be cross-examined to discredit him; but if the conflict is unresolved at the end of the day the judge has to direct the jury that his evidence is worthless. He cannot ask them to consider whether the truth lies in his testimony or in his statement.

Yet it is this question that is considered carefully by journalists and politicians when considering possible miscarriages of justice. It is discussed by them *ad nauseam*. The only persons not allowed to consider this elementary point are members of the jury.

Reform would involve a technical exception to the common law rule against hearsay; but an exception to that rule, first made in civil cases under the Civil Evidence Act 1938, has produced just results over the past 58 years.

Yours sincerely,
C. D. CHAPMAN,
Hill Top, Collingham,
Wetherby, West Yorkshire.
April 13.

From Mr Peter Scrope

Sir, Those engaging in debate over the Government's White Paper on sentencing should bear in mind some pertinent facts.

During the last 17 years the prison population has increased by 25 per cent, from 42,000 to 53,000. In the same period the number of prison officers has increased by 76 per cent, from 14,000 to 24,700, resulting in a ratio of two prisoners per officer today compared to three per officer in 1979.

Sixty per cent of all recorded crime is committed by just 7 per cent of offenders. Imprisoning this relatively small number of persistent offenders can have a dramatic effect on crime.

Recorded crime has fallen now for three years in succession — the only time this century that it has fallen for three successive years, other than during the First World War and the Korean War. The half-million fewer recorded crimes is the largest-ever continuous fall.

The recent rise in the percentage of crimes recorded is largely due, I believe, to the requirement by insurance companies that a crime is reported before a claim will be considered.

The number of police has increased by 16,000 since 1979 and funding for an additional 5,000 police has been made available (more than three times the whole of the County Durham police force).

Bearing these facts in mind, the Home Secretary's proposals would seem to be eminently sensible.

Yours sincerely,
PETER SCROPE (Conservative Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Darlington),
Darlington Conservative Association,
35 Grange Road,
Darlington, Co Durham.
April 12.

Oxford's capacity to adapt to change

From Dr Norman Myers

Sir, While at Harvard on a visiting lectureship, I have read Robert Stevens's strictures on American universities, with their "academic trivia and curriculum faddishness which pass for progress" ("Oxford is a special case", Education, April 5), as well as the letters which you published on April 8 about the Coopers & Lybrand report on Oxford.

One innovation here which has succeeded for a quarter of a century is interdisciplinary study. I am with the Harvard Committee on the Environment, a university-wide programme which, along with five other such interdisciplinary initiatives, has long been esteemed by both faculty and students. This contrasts with environmental activities in Britain: Oxford's effort is still beset with basic troubles, Cambridge's has hardly ever got off the ground, Edinburgh's has been threatened with closure.

Yet we need environmental studies, if only because 4 per cent of Britain's GDP reflects problems of grand-scale pollution and the like. The environment is, by definition, a continuum; hence it can best be studied through interdisciplinary endeavour.

Because I specialise in being a generalist, I lecture at Harvard on biology, forestry, demography, economics and government, and in the Divinity School — much as I have at Cornell, Berkeley, Stanford and a number of other US universities which foster such interdisciplinary work.

Could it be that these universities provide a niche for the cultural proclivity which Dr Stevens regrets is less than prominent in certain sectors of British academia?

Yours truly,
NORMAN MYERS,
Committee on the Environment,
Harvard University,
Cambridge, Mass 02138, USA.
April 9.

From Dr Michael Brock

Sir, Dr Stevens says that Asian and American students come to Oxford "for the most part" because it is "one of the few research universities which take undergraduate teaching seriously". Long may it do so; but can that be the guiding consideration for most of these students?

Last year 74.5 per cent of the university's 529 Americans, and 67 per cent of all its overseas students from outside the EU, were studying for postgraduate degrees. The arrangements for Oxford's postgraduates are crucially important and Coopers & Lybrand are not alone in judging them to be a cause for concern.

In provision for students, excellent undergraduate teaching is not enough.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BROCK
(Warden, Nuffield College,
Oxford, 1978-88),
11 Portland Road, Oxford.
April 1.

Christians in China

From Mr Roger Aylott

Sir, My father, the Reverend W. Roy Aylott, was the last Methodist missionary to leave Wenzhou before the city fell into Communist hands, serving from 1929 to 1950 ("Charity blossoms where Red Guards marched", April 9). His last act before having to flee from the Communist regime was to leave the young pastors he had trained "in charge" of the church in the district. The events of the years spent in Wenzhou from 1935 leading up to his departure in 1950 are fully documented in his daily diaries.

After forty years of silence my father, brother and I visited Wenzhou in 1987 to find the church alive and well and, what is more, ecumenical. The young pastors, now elderly men, had discharged the responsibility vested in them beyond my father's hopes and prayers. Christian faith and worship had been resurrected and emerged stronger than ever.

It is good to read that this is being sustained, and we could imagine ourselves sharing this wonderful Eastertide in Wenzhou. My father's ambition to establish a church self-governed and self-motivated by Chinese Christians in Wenzhou has been fulfilled.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER AYLOTT,
21 The Close, Norwich, Norfolk.
April 9.

Ups and downs

From Mr John Brown

Sir, Surely the club porter recalled by Mr Richard Vaughan-Davies (letters, April 5 and 11) meant that most gentlemen give more than the mean?

Sincerely,
JOHN BROWN,
The Town House,
Leigh, Worcestershire.

Hosepipe charges

From Mr P. G. Scott

Sir, Your article, "Water firms under pressure" (Business, April 3), states categorically that people who have been banned from using hosepipes are entitled to no payment from their water company. I would suggest that this is an incomplete statement.

While the domestic-supply duty of the water companies does not include supply of water for customers to water their gardens or clean their cars with hosepipes or sprinklers, the water companies are charging consumers for the privilege of receiving water from them for this purpose, whether in standard and variable charges or specific volume charges for using hosepipes.

Thus, when a temporary ban is made without a drought order, under section 76 (4) of the Water Industry Act 1991, the companies are obliged to reduce charges. The sub-section reads:

Where a prohibition or restriction is imposed by a water undertaker under this section, charges made by the undertaker for the use of a hosepipe or similar apparatus shall be subject to a reasonable reduction and, in the case of a charge paid in advance, the undertaker shall make any necessary repayment or adjustment.

While this is not strictly compensation, and will not apply under a drought order, it does provide a legal obligation on each company to make payments to charge-payers to reduce charges to take account of the bans. I believe that this applies in these circumstances.

Yours faithfully,
P. G. SCOTT,
Toller Beattie (solicitors),
Church House, Church Lane,
Barnstaple, Devon.
April 3.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

A proper note for the funeral blues

From the Reverend P. D. James, SSC

Sir, It has long been a feature of the funeral rite in East London that hymns are supplemented with popular songs. In my experience Sinatra's version of *My Way* would top any list (report and leading article, April 9). There is a potential conflict of sentiment between the lyrics and the message of the Christian Gospel.

In discussion with clerical colleagues two songs have emerged as possible theme songs for the final rite. Gracie Fields singing *Wish Me Luck As You Wave Me Goodbye* has an optimistic feel which would lift the funeral party. For the few remaining Anglo-Catholic priests perhaps Piaf singing *Je Ne Regrette Rien* would encapsulate our sense of solidarity in the face of overwhelming odds.

I remain, with a song in my heart,
Yours faithfully,
P. D. JAMES (Parish priest,
St Saviour's, Walthamstow),
210 Markhouse Road,
Walthamstow, E17.
April 9.

From Mrs J. D. Abell

Sir, Your leading article claims that "Meat Loaf, if he captures the *tristesse* of the assembled throng, is just as valid as Mozart". I suppose that in the same way an advertising slogan, if it is remembered, is just as valid as a Shakespeare sonnet, and a Mills and Boon romance, if its story is enjoyed, as *The Brothers Karamazov*.

This does not mean that such bubble-gum culture should be allowed to replace works of art.

If there is an afterlife, and in mine I catch my descendants playing pop music at my funeral (provided I get one), I shall know I have definitely gone to hell.

Yours faithfully,
JULIANA ABELL,
The Old Rectory,
Branston-by-Belvoir,
Grantham, Lincolnshire.
April 9.

From the Editor of Early Music News

Sir, To do justice to funeral blues, Verdi's *Requiem*, which your leader alleges to have been played at "countless" funerals, requires four soloists, double chorus and large orchestra, and lasts nearly an hour and a half. I should be delighted if it were sung at my own funeral, but I fear for the patience of my non-musical friends, not to mention the hopes of my heirs.

The Verdi, by the way, includes a spine-tingling representation of the last trump, and ends with a whispered plea for deliverance from eternal death. I can think of many adjectives to describe the work, but "elegant" is not one of them.

Yours &c.,
RICHARD LAWRENCE,
Editor, Early Music News,
Sutton House,
2-4 Homerton High Street, E9.
April 9.

Old soldiers

From Mr Patrick Bradley

Sir, On a recent visit to Belgium, I visited the Tyne Cot military cemetery near Ypres. I was impressed by the beauty of the gardens but distressed to see that the inscriptions on many of the individual stones are now fading. This state of disrepair was also evident at the Menin Gate, where the inscriptions on several of the stone tablets are now totally illegible.

Is the memory of these old soldiers being allowed to fade away? Or is any action being taken to restore these important memorials before they are completely lost?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK BRADLEY,
67 The Vineyard,
Richmond, Surrey.
April 10.

What's in a title?

From Mr Cedric Hayes

Sir, I have an idea that local government degenerated when town clerks became chief executives. Magistrates' courts now have them, abandoning the ancient and honourable title, Chief Clerk to the Justices; this is power-play writ large.

The plague spreads: of five signatories to the letter from countryside and wildlife trusts (April 5) one is styled thus; the others still, properly in my view, as directors.

Does not the title "chief executive" quarrel rather with the ethos of a voluntary, subscription-based wildlife organisation, and risk alienating its members?

Yours faithfully,
CEDRIC HAYES,
14 Thurleigh Road,
Didsbury, Manchester 20.
April 9.

First blood

From Mr Martin Carter

Sir, I have just heard a sound like a cuckoo being run over by a lawnmower.

Could this simply be a record?

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN CARTER,
Riversdale, Church Avenue,
Cardross, Dunbartonshire.
April 12.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 13: The Prince Edward, Trustee and Chairman of the International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, this evening left Heathrow Airport, London, for Japan.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer is in attendance.

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 14: Professor Dr Princess Chulabhorn of Thailand was received by The Queen and remained to tea.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 14: The Prince Edward, Trustee and Chairman of the International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association, this afternoon arrived in Tokyo, Japan, and was received by Her Majesty's Ambassador (His Excellency Mr David Wright).

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Welcome Dinner at the Hotel InterContinental, Tokyo Bay.

Today's royal engagements

The Duchess of Gloucester will attend a reception in aid of the Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP Europe) Association at Grosvenor House.

Birthdays today

Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, 56; Dame Jocelyn Barrow, former deputy chairman, Broadcasting Standards Council, 67; Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, civil servant, 65; Group Captain David Bolton, vice-chairman, The Analytical Sciences Corporation Europe, 64; Professor Sir Michael Bond, Vice-Principal, Glasgow University, 60; Sir Adrian Cadbury, former chairman, Cadbury Schweppes, 67; Mr Tony Calvert, founder, the Terrence Higgins Trust, 40; Miss Claudia Cardinale, actress, 58; Sir Richard Evans, diplomat, 68; Lord Geraint, 71; Lord Grey of Naunton, 86; Sir Tim Lankester, economist, 54; Sir Neville Marriner, conductor, 62; Professor C.D. Marsden, neurologist, 58; Sir Peter Menzies, former chairman, Electricity Council, 84; Mr Alan Plater, scriptwriter, 61; Mr A.J.P. Ross, former chairman, Joint Consultants Committee, 61; Earl Russell, 59; Sir Maurice Shock, former Rector, Lincoln College, Oxford, 70; Sir Leslie Smith, former chairman, BOC Group, 77; Mr G.H. Stafford, former Master, St Cross College, Oxford, 76; Miss Emma Thompson, actress, 37; Miss Meriol Trevor, author, 77; Dr Richard von Weizsäcker, former President of Germany, 76; Sir Douglas Wass, civil servant, 73.

Service dinner

The Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA)

The Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Dining Club of the Officers of The Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA) held on Saturday at the Cadet Centre, Waterbeach. Colonel W.F. Page, President of the Regimental Association, presided.

Today's anniversaries

BIRTHS: Leonhard Euler, mathematician and physicist, Basel, 1707; Friedrich Struve, astronomer, Altona, 1793; Sir James Clark Ross, Arctic explorer, London, 1800; Benjamin Jowett, scholar, London, 1817; Henry James, writer, New York, 1843; Bliss Carman, poet, Fredericton, New Brunswick, 1861; Stanley Bruce, 1st Viscount Bruce of Melbourne, Prime Minister of Australia 1923-29, Melbourne, 1883; Bessie Smith, the "empress of the blues", Chattanooga, Tennessee, 1894.

DEATHS: Richard Mulcaster, author, Stanford Rivers, Essex, 1611; Hubert Robert, landscape painter, Paris, 1808; John Bell, surgeon, Rome, 1820; Abraham Lincoln, 16th American president 1861-65, assassinated at Ford's Theatre, Washington, 1865; Matthew Arnold, poet and critic, Liverpool, 1888; William Thomas Stead, journalist, perished on the *Titanic*, 1912; John Singer Sargent, portrait painter, London, 1925; Jean-Paul Sartre, existentialist, Paris, 1980; Sir William Empson, critic, London, 1984; Greta Garbo, actress, New York, 1990.

Dr Samuel Johnson published his *Dictionary*, 1755.

The White Star liner *Titanic* struck an iceberg and sank on her maiden voyage with the loss of over 1,500 lives, 1912.

Sir James Barrie donated the copyright fee of his play *Peter Pan* to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, 1925.

The population of Malta was awarded the George Cross for gallantry during the Second World War, 1942.

Nature notes

Blackbirds are building their nests in bushes or thick ivy: the brown female does most of the work, but her glossy-black mate can sometimes be seen with a beak full of grass that he has brought for her to use. Starlings are building untidy nests in holes in trees, or under house or church eaves: woodpigeons are making their flimsy nests of twigs out in the bare branches. Summer visitors are slowly returning: the first cuckoos have been reported calling in the treetops, and common terns are making their way along rivers or up the coast, stopping to dive and fish as they go.

The common tern

Several red-rumped swallows have been seen in the south of England: they have probably overshot the mark on their way up from Africa to Spain. Snowy-white flowers are opening on the blackthorn hedges: at the weekend, many of the bushes had real snow lying in their shadow. The first green leaves are sprouting in the hawthorn hedges, about a fortnight later than usual. Weeping willows, white willows and crack willows are all coming into delicate leaf. On the birch trees, there are hard catkins like birds' feet, but few green leaf-shoots out yet. DJM

Unknown map throws new light on Battle of Culloden

Bonnie Prince Charlie 'led from the front'

By Magnus Linklater

A HITHERTO undiscovered map of the Battle of Culloden, drawn by a French officer who fought on the Highland side, has turned up on the eve of the battle's 250th anniversary. It has caused huge excitement among historians because it is the only known Jacobite drawing of the last battle fought on British soil.

Government troops under the Duke of Cumberland defeated an army of rebel clansmen at Culloden, near Inverness, on April 16, 1746, slaughtering 1,500 and ending attempts to restore the Stuarts to the British throne.

The map, delicately drawn in ink on a turquoise wash background, makes at least one controversial claim. It shows Bonnie Prince Charlie, who led the Highland rising, starting the battle out in front of his troops, rather than watching from a hill behind the lines where most accounts place him. Three stars mark the positions he took up in the course of the fighting.

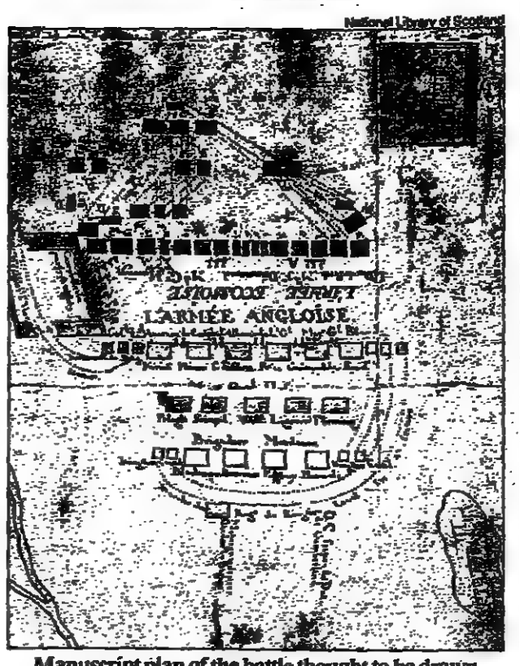
They show him, perhaps for propaganda reasons, placed in front of his men, then moving back out of the firing line, before taking up the final vantage point from where he watched the rout and massacre of his troops.

There is jubilation at the National Library of Scotland which acquired the map from an American source only last week just as it opened a big exhibition to mark the anniversary. The library will now be displaying not only the map but contemporary drawings, also recently discovered, of government and Highland troops, showing details of their uniforms and weapons, as well as a diary of Prince Charles's campaign, kept by one of his supporters.

Dr Iain Brown, assistant keeper of manuscripts at the library, describes it, modestly, as "quite a find". The drawings, probably by a Jacobite opponent, are clearly intended as propaganda. They show the Highlanders as grotesque figures, draped in tartan, wielding broadswords and shields, or retreating in dejection. English dragoons, though faintly oafish as well, are better armed, wearing superior uniforms.

The map has been given to the library by its American owner who says he had French ancestors with military connections. He says it has been in his family since the 18th century. The library, which is in no doubt that it is genuine, is at present unwilling to reveal his identity.

Propaganda drawing of "bombastic Highlander"



Manuscript plan of the battle thought to be drawn by a French officer who fought for Prince Charles

There has been no time yet for a proper examination of the map, which is in a delicate state. The French officer who drew it describes it as "Plan exact de la disposition des troupes Ecossoises sous le commandement de son ARPC [Altesses Royale Prince Charles] et de celle des troupes anglaises a la bataille de Culloden ..." In other words, a precise drawing of the battle by someone who was actually among the rebels. The only other maps known to exist were compiled by Hanoverians.

It plots in great detail for the first time the position of cannon on both sides, showing the superior firepower of the government forces. The battle marked the death knell of the Highland charge, a form of warfare which had made the clansmen one of the most formidable fighting forces in Europe. At Culloden the charge was torn apart by government fire before it could get under way; the attention to detail suggests that the drawer may have been an artillery officer.

The map also emphasises the significant role played by the Campbells who fought on the government side, thus earning the hatred of their fellow-Highlanders.

The uncomfortable fact that Scots fought on both sides in the battle is reflected in the title of the library's exhibition: A Nation Divided.

Leading article, page 19

Forthcoming marriages

Captain W.R.H. Barnes Yallowley and Miss E.K. Kendon
The engagement is announced between Captain William Barnes Yallowley, The Queen's Royal Hussars, younger son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Barnes Yallowley, of Firle, East Sussex, and Emily, daughter of Mr David Kendon, of Flimwell, East Sussex, and the late Mrs Caroline Kendon.

Mr R.E.B. Bradley and Miss A. Moss
The engagement is announced between Robert, only son of Mr and Mrs Richard Bradley, of Fletching, Sussex and Allison, only daughter of Mr Stirling Moss OBE, and Mrs Michael Taylor, both of London.

Mr A.B. Greene and Miss C.D.M. Moore
The engagement is announced between Aubrey Basil Greene, of Ivington Park Farm, Leominster, Herefordshire, and Catherine Diana Moinet Moore, of Victoria Rd, Kensington, London.

Mr R.W.P. Kohler and Miss M.L.L. Coghlan
The engagement is announced between Roderick, eldest son of Paul and Roz Kohler, of West Horsley, Surrey, and Melindy, daughter of Tim and Liz Coghlan, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr A.J. McKinlay and Miss M.E.F. Hulbert
The engagement is announced between Alexander, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Crawford McKinlay, of Winchester, Hampshire, and Miranda, only daughter of Canon and Mrs Anthony Hulbert, of All Saints Vicarage, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

Mr P.C.A. Moon and Miss F.Y.M. Laroche
The engagement is announced between Angus, eldest son of Dr Charles Moon, of Ilfogan, Cornwall, and Mrs Liggy Whittingham, of Penzance, Cornwall, and Florence, daughter of Dr and Mrs Bernard Laroche, of Nice, France.

Dr S.P.G. Padley and Dr C.L.T. Hogg
The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Wing Commander P.G. Padley and the late Mrs Elizabeth Padley, of Gayhurst, Buckinghamshire, and Claire, daughter of Rear-Admiral R.I.T. Hogg, of Barnes, London, and Mrs Susie Rankin, of Barkston, Lincolnshire.

Dr A.J. Slingsby and Dr C.J.D. Bush
The engagement is announced between Andrew John, only son of Mr and Mrs John Slingsby, of Retford, Nottinghamshire, and Cathryn Joanna Duyland, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Peter Bush, of Warningcamp, West Sussex.

Marriages

Mr R.I. Holman-Baird and Miss P.S. Thomson
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Nicholas, Longparish, Hampshire, of Mr Richard Holman-Baird, eldest son of Mr John and Lady Diana Holman, of Rickarton, Stonehaven, to Miss Polly Thomson, daughter of the late Mr Angus Thomson and of Mrs Thomson, of Kensington, London. The Rev William Robson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Joseph Thomson, was attended by Louise Holman-Baird, Camilla Bacon, Alexandra Townsend-Rose, Sophie Cole, George Harwood, Alexander Townshend and William Stirrup. Mr Jonathan Grew was best man.

A reception was held at Hurstbourne Park and the honeymoon will be spent on the Galapagos Islands.

Mr C.K.M. Druce and Miss A.M.P. Licudi
The marriage took place on April 13, in Dorchester, Dorset, of Charles Kenneth Major, son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Druce, of Worcester, and Alegra Maria Pia, daughter of Mr A.E Antony Licudi, of Gibraltar and London.

Schools news

Aiglon College
Term begins on April 16. School guardian is Rodrigo Leiva. There will be a Service of Dedication for the newly acquired Aiglon College Chapel on May 17, and the confirmation Service will be on May 18 according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of Scotland. Both Services will be conducted by the School Chaplain, the Rev John Murdoch; the Dedication of the Chapel will be performed by the Rev Normon Drummond, Chairman and National Governor of BBC Scotland, who will also confirm the candidates and preach the Sermon at the confirmation Service. Parents' Weekend is May 18-19. Sports Day is on June 22. Term concludes with the Graduation ceremony on June 29.

Haileybury & Imperial Service College
The Summer Term at Haileybury begins today. T.A. Smith (Lawrence) continues as Head of School, Kate Bowen (Alban's) as Second Head, and C.A. Rayner Cook (Edmonstone) as Third Head. N.D. Hughes (Colvin) is Captain of Cricket. The Lord Bishop of St Albans has become President of the Council from which the Right Hon Lord Stewartby and the Right Rev J.B. Taylor have retired. The Imperial Service College Reunion will be at Haileybury Junior School, Windsor on June 1. The Summer Concert will be on May 24 and Speech Day on May 25, when the preacher of the Commemoration Service will be the Right Rev John Richardson, Bishop of Bedford, and the Guest of Honour and Speaker will be Sir John Manduell CBE (OH). The Haileybury Orchestra and Choir will give a concert at St Martin-in-the-Fields at 7.30pm on Tuesday, May 14. Term ends on June 29.

Moira House, Eastbourne
Summer Term begins today and ends on Saturday, June 29. The new School Knights are Jemma Watkins (formerly of St Andrew's School, Eastbourne), and Zoe Aylward (formerly of St Bede's School, Eastbourne). The new Standard Bearers are: Victoria Culley (formerly of The Barn School, Much Hadham), Vicki Maltby (formerly of Wadhurst College, Sussex), Mhairi McGhee (formerly of Annecy School, Seaford), Carlie Morris (formerly of Bermuda High School, Bermuda), Victoria Oakley (formerly of Benenden School, Kent), Ruth Ritzema (formerly of Moss Hall Junior School, Finchley), Zena Slim (formerly of Dhahran Ahliyyah School, Saudi Arabia), Joanna Swan (formerly of St Bede's School, Eastbourne), Lucy Wood (formerly of Hartsbourne J.M.I. Hertfordshire). The Old Girls' Reunion in London is being held on Saturday, April 27, at the Royal Over-Seas League, Park Place, from noon. The exchange with our partner school in Montpellier takes place from June 15 to June 24. Founders' Day is June 22 and an Old Girls' Club Reunion Lunch will be held at the school on that day. The Spanish Study Tour to Izarra College, Pamplona, takes place from June 22 to July 2.

Oakham School
Summer Term at Oakham School begins today. Monday April 15. The Duesbury Bowes lecture, on Friday, April 19, will be given by Lord Charteris of Amisfield. Confirmation takes place on Saturday, May 4. The Concert Bands of Oakham, Oundle and Uppingham Schools will perform Berlioz ' *Symphonie Funèbre et Triomphale*' at Peterborough Cathedral, Thursday May 9, at 7.30pm. The Leavers' Service will be held on Saturday, May 25. The Peter Sly Memorial Match will take place on Old Oakhamian Day, Sunday, May 12. The School's contributions to the Oakham Festival, June 21-28, will include concerts by the Chamber Orchestra and Big Band and the Musical *The Fantasticks*. Speech Day is Saturday, July 1 and the Guest of Honour will be Dr Robert Stevens, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford. The Headmaster, Mr Graham Smallbone, retires at the end of the school year after eleven years at Oakham School.

Pocklington School
Summer Term at Pocklington School, York, begins today. Old Pocklingtonian Day takes place, at the School, on Sunday, June 30, 1996. The term ends on Wednesday, July 3, 1996.

Repton School
Summer Term at Repton School begins today. Speech Day will be on Saturday, May 25, when the Guest of Honour will be Mr R.G. Smethurst, Provost of Worcester College, Oxford and the preacher at the Commemoration Service will be the Very Rev Dominic Milroy OSB.

Wycliffe College, Gloucestershire
Summer Term opens April 15 with 670 students. The Princess Royal officially opened Wycliffe Hall. The Choir Tour has returned from Venice/Florence. The National Schools Squash Championship celebrations will be held on April 18. Her Grace The Duchess of Somerset presents prizes and The Rev Rebecca Watts, Chaplain of Wadham College, Oxford, preaches on Speech Day, July 6. Wycliffe International Summer Vacation Courses commence on July 8.

David Tandy

The Service to commemorate the life of David Tandy will take place on Wednesday, April 24, 1996, at 5pm and will be held at The Temple Church, Middle Temple, London, EC4. If you wish to obtain a map of the location of the church please contact Claire Woodcock at Titmuss Sainer Dechert on 0171 583 5353.

Dickens memorabilia to be sold at auction

By John Vincent

A VAST collection of rare first editions, portraits and memorabilia relating to Charles Dickens and many other great literary figures, gathered over a lifetime by a Victorian bibliophile, are to be sold in London next week.

Included is Dickens's monogrammed pewter tankard — the one from which he may have been drinking when he was "stricken with death at his dinner table" on June 9, 1870 — and a cheque signed by him a few days earlier. The mug was given to Horace Pym, a London solicitor, whose collection is being auctioned at Sotheby's on April 23, by Georgina Hogarth, Dickens's sister-in-law, and is expected to fetch around £2,000.

Pym, who was an author and editor as well as a passionate collector, was a lifelong admirer of Dickens and, after the novelist's death, became firm friends with his family. Georgina gave him the tankard as a birthday present, to stand on his mantlepiece of his Kent home between a Samuel Laurence portrait of a bright-eyed Dickens in 1837 and its companion of the following year, a portrait of Dickens's wife, Georgina's sister Catherine Hogarth.

The large house at Brasted became a shrine to Dickens and other literary figures. A unique copy of *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club*, containing an additional 182 illustrations, 24 of them watercolour drawings by F W Pailthorpe at the special request of Pym, has a pre-sale estimate of £9,000.

Among the most expensive of the 400 lots is a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds of the Anglo-Irish dramatist Richard Brinsley Sheridan. The picture, bought by Pym in 1879, is expected to fetch up to £20,000. Pym, who died in 1896, never met Dickens.

Pym's collection included Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli's despatch box, containing two letters from Queen Victoria, which is estimate at up to £1,500. The sale also features rare first or early editions of works by T Anstey Guthrie, Pepys, Ruskin, Tennyson, William Makepeace Thackeray, Robert Louis Stevenson, Voltaire, Shelley and Charles Darwin.

BMD'S: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Exalt the Lord our God, and bow down towards his holy mountain; for holy is the Lord our God. Psalm 99 : 9 (RSV)

BIRTHS

ACHESON-GRAY - On April 11th 1996, to Miranda (née Wilson) and Colin, a daughter, Lucy Elizabeth.

ELLIOTT - On 9th April 1996, at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, to Jenny (née Lambie) and Graham, a gorgeous daughter, Flora Kate Carrod.

ELLIS on April 12th at Bath Hospital Somerset to Lindsay and Stephen, a son William George, a brother for James.

MCGLEUGHLIN on the 4th April to Sally née Theakstone and Peter, a beautiful son Christian Austin.

OSBORNE on April the 11th to Debra and William, a daughter (Constance Ellen Dixie).

RAFFAN on 9th April, to Emma née Lewty and Michael, a daughter Sophie Mary Ruby.

READ on April 13th 1996 to Lucy née Tidswell & Vernon, a daughter Constance Isabel Alice.

DEATHS

ASHFIELD- Dusty (Gladys Christina) Very suddenly on April 12th aged 84 at home. Dear Wife of Gerry & loved step mother of Michael & Philip & their families - also dear sister to Joan. Cremation at Tunbridge Wells to be arranged. Family flowers but donations if desired to the Royal Society For The Protection Of Birds.

CARTON, Molly (Née Spiro, of South Africa)- died peacefully after a painful illness, bravely borne, on 12th April, aged 79. Much loved & sadly missed by husband Sydney, son Paul and devoted family and friends. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to St John's Hospice, Grove End Road, London NW8. Funeral will take place at Golders' Green.

DEATHS

CLARKE - Edwin Sisterson M.D., F.R.C.P., neurologist, historian of medicine and Director of The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine 1973-1979, died at home on April 11th. Private funeral. Donations if wished to The Multiple Sclerosis Society, 25 Effie Road, London SW6 1EE.

DRAYTON - John Astor, on 8th April. Beloved father of Caroline.

JEFFERIS - On Friday 12th April 1996 peacefully in hospital Laura Yvonne, much loved by all who knew her. Service at Putney Vale Crematorium at 9.45 am on Wednesday 17th April. Please no flowers but donations if desired to St Mary Abbots Ward at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital c/o Chelsea Funeral Directors, 260B Fulham Road, London SW10 9EL.

LAMBIE - On 10th April 1996 aged 87 years, Donald William of Ryde, formerly of Cowes, Isle of Wight. Beloved husband of Betty, father of Philip, Graham and Peter and grandfather of Helen and William, James, Annabel and Alexander, Isobel and Peter. Funeral Service at the Isle of Wight Crematorium on Friday 19th April at 11am. No flowers. Enquiries to H.V. Taylor, tel: (01983) 562082.

LEBUS - Angela Mary on April 12th, died unexpectedly but very peacefully at home. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium on Thursday April 18th at 11 am. Further details contact J.H. Kenyon Funeral Directors on (0171) 229-3810.

LUNN - On April 8th 1996, Martine Lunn died tragically following a car accident in Scotland. Most desperately loved wife of Lieutenant Mark Lunn, Royal Navy and beloved daughter of Diane and Alan Staley. The funeral service will take place on Thursday April 18th at St Mary's Church, Cowes at 1pm. Enquiries to F.L. Lloyd

DEATHS

MAYNE - Edward Adrian (Ted) peacefully at his home in Guildford on 12th April 1996. Devoted husband of the late Mary, father of Edward and Nicholas. Funeral Service to take place at Guildford Crematorium on Monday 22nd April 1996 at 1 pm. Family flowers only but donations in lieu of floral tributes for R.N.L.I. can be sent c/o Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 26 South Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6NY, tel: (01483) 567333.

MILLER - Sir Stephen James Hamilton, KCVO, on April 12th 1996 peacefully at home after a long illness borne with great dignity and fortitude. Mucked loved husband of Heather, father of Ewan, Richard and Micheal, and loving Grandfather. Funeral private. Family flowers only please. Thanksgiving service to be announced at a later date. Donations in his memory, if desired to St John Ophthalmic Hospital, C/o The Order of St John, 1 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1 7EF.

MILRATH - On April 10th Victor of Berkhamsted. Loving and dearly loved husband of Dee, father of Caroline and grandfather of Eleanor, Gabriella and Edward Hugo. Private funeral. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for Florence Nightingale House, Stoke Mandeville c/o Malcolm Jones & Metcalfe, 284, High Street, Berkhamsted Herts. HP4 1AH Tel:(01442) 864548. Service of Thnaksgiving Saturday April 27th at Berkhamsted School Chapel at 2.00 p.m.

OSMAN on the 11th April 1996, at his home, Hampton Court, near New Radnor, aged 82. Louis, husband of Dilys and father of Marie Louise. Funeral service at St Stephens Church Old Rector

DEATHS

STOREY - On April 11th, Harry Edward, aged 82, formerly a senior engineer with B.P. For many years in Iran. Much loved brother of Doris Hill. Service Friday April 19th at Chichester Crematorium at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to R.N.L.I. c/o Edward White & Son, 8, South Pallant, Chichester (01243) 782136.

WATSON on April 10th 1996, peacefully in the loving care of the Millmay Mission Hospital, Andrew John aged 47, dearly loved son of Rosalind and the late Roy Watson. Friend of many. Funeral service at Lewisham Crematorium on Tuesday 23rd of April at 2.00pm. Family flowers only.

WEDGWOOD - Cecil Felix Nivelle on April 9th 1996, peacefully in Llandrindod Wells Hospital aged 79 years of Broad Heath, Presteigne. Funeral Service at St Andrews Church, Presteigne, on Friday April 19th 1996 at 1.30 pm, followed by cremation at Hereford Crematorium. No flowers by request. If desired, donations to R.N.L.I. Enquiries please to Mallet's Funeral Service, Presteigne, tel: (01544) 267462.

WESTWOOD - On April 1st in hospital after a short illness, Alex, President of the London branch of the R.S.C.D.S. and a friend to so many. Funeral will take place on Friday April 19th at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3.30 pm. Floral tributes to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 212 Eversholt Street, NW1 1BD, tel: (0171) 387-6078. If preferred donations to a charity of choice or Alex Westwood Memorial Fund c/o R.S.C.D.S. London branch.

WILKINSON - William Henry Nairn, peacefully on 12th April 1996, after a short, sudden illness. Beloved husband of Kate, much loved father of Matthew, Sophia and Alice. Private family funeral. Flowers to J.H. Kenyon, 74 Rochester Row, London SW1P 1JU.

FLATSHARE

FLATMATES London's foremost (Est 1970) Professional flat sharing service. 0171-589 5491

MAIDA VALE W9, Room to let in flat near Park. £244.00 pcm & bills. Tel 0171 286 9706

PARSONS GREEN smart house share, females & sole rm £120 & 105 pw.Tel 0171 603 0094.

STH KEN Lge rm in flat o'looking gdns for non smoking, prof fem. 28+ £100 pw. 0171 373 7084.

WANDSWORTH TOWN M/F prof, dbe rm in lux with gdn. £287 pcm excl. 0181 871 9370

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

SPRING IS IN THE AIR AT MARKSONS! Sample the musical delights of Spring. Choose from 100's of new & secondhand Upright, Grand & Digital pianos. You can even hire one from only £20 per month with an option to buy later. MARKSON PIANOS Established 1910 0171 935 8682 (NW1) 0181 854 4517 (SE10)

RENTALS

CHELSEA Large and sunny mansonette, 3/4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large modern kitchen, dining hall, study, reception. Available end of May. £1,995 pw. Tel: 01865 390429

FIN GAPP Management Services Ltd Require properties in central, south & west London areas for waiting applicants. Tel. 0171 243 0964.

L & M INTERNATIONAL Require properties in the SW1, SW3, SW5, SW7 & SW10 areas for their corporate & private tenants Tel: 0171 730 6003.

SERVICES

PLUMP PARTNERS National Dating Agency. If you are slimmer or prefer a plump part-

SPECIALISTS

YOU should write a book. You can't? Then commission one. Hannah Ranier 0171 582 6133

TICKETS FOR SALE

ACCESS TICKETS Specialists in Sold Out Events All theatre and concerts & sporting events bought & sold. Call Now on 0171 821 6616 Fx 828 3507

ALL BEST SEATS P Waller, Pulp, Springsteen, T. Turner All theatre Pop & Short Title events & mas. 0171 947 7662

ALL TICKETS Phantom, cricket, Wimbledon, B. Springsteen, Oasis, Eagles, T. Turner, All major pop, sport & theatre. CC's accpt. 0171 925 0086

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

TICKETS
EAGLES, OASIS, TINA TURNER, BON JOVI, BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN, NEIL DIAMOND, HEATHCLIFF, TOMMY, PHANTOM, SUNSET, WIMBLEDON '96, FILBERTOTS CUP, ENGLAND V PAKISTAN/INDIA, RUGBY LEAGUE CHALLENGE CUP, ROYAL ASCOT, ALL POP, THEATRE & SPORTING EVENTS
TEL: 0171 323 4480
(Ex Portland Associates)

TICKETS (Bought & Sold) Wimbledon 96 Royal Ascot Phantom, Oliver, Saigon, Oasis, 3 Tenors, Eagles, T. Turner, B. Springsteen Neil Diamond, Bon Jovi Any Ticket obtained. 0171 [illegible]

TICKETS FOR SALE

ALL TICKETS Wimbledon '96 R. Ascot, Grand Prix, Oasis, Springsteen, Eagles, Westfield, Phantom, Sunset etc. All Theatre, Pop & Sport We obtain the unobtainable 0171 403 8555 All CC's, Free Delivery

ABSOLUTELY ALL TICKETS Ascot, Grand Prix, Rugby League, Pilkington Cup, Middlesex Sevens, Wimbledon Debs bought and sold. Eagles, Springsteen, Tina Turner, Neil Diamond, Oasis, Bon Jovi, Phantom, Westfield, Tommy, Three Tenors, All theatre, pop and sport. CC Hotline 0171 357 9988

TUITION & COURSES

WEEKEND Bridge course for beginners 26 April L'Spa. Begin Bridge 01474 812443.

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Diplomat Travel Services Ltd. 0171-730 2201 ABTA 25703 IATA/ATOL 1355.

GERMANY Daily low cost flights. 0181 429 2900. Visa/Access. ABTA 90686, ATOL.

Amsterdam from £35 easyJet 01582 44 55 66 ATOL 2733

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

TRAILFINDERS
More than just low cost flights worldwide
WITH UP TO 65% DISCOUNT ON HOTELS & CAR HIRE
Call Trailfinders for the complete tailor-made travel service
LONDON Longhaul 0171-938 3366
Transatlantic & European 0171-937 5400
First & Business Class 0171-938 3444
BIRMINGHAM Worldwide 0121-236 1234
BRISTOL Worldwide 0117-929 9000
GLASGOW Worldwide 0141-353 2224
MANCHESTER Worldwide 0161-839 6969
First & Business Class 0161-839 3434

OVERSEAS EXPRESS - low cost flights, Germany, East Europe, Africa, Mid East, Indian Sub, Far East, South America. Club/First 0171 734 2266 & 0161 832 3167 IATA/ATOL 3662.

EXPRESS FLIGHT CENTRE Europe from
Athens £89 Orlando £149
New York £170 Malaga £99
Canaries £99 Malta £99
Cairo £179 Nice £109
Sydney £499 Faro £109
Paris £99 Toronto £179
Rio £299 Tel Aviv £149
ALL WORLDWIDE & EUROPEAN DEST AVAILABLE AT DISCOUNT RATE
ABTA 90088 ATOL 0117
Tel: 01273 700737

FLIGHTS
ALICANTE fr £99 FARO fr £99
PALMA £99 CYPRUS £129
CANARIES £99 NAPLES £79
GREECE £99 MALAGA £99
MALTA £99 AUSTRALIA £399
ISRAEL £129 ORLANDO £199
TURKEY £99 USA £199
All European & Worldwide Dest Available
VICEROY AIR INTERNATIONAL Retail Agent
01476 74111

CAPITAL FLIGHTS
Portugal £9 USA 129
Spain £9 Canada 179
Canaries £9 Caribbean 189
Ski Flights £9 Africa 209
Greece £9 Far East 329
Cyprus £9 S.America 349
Malta £9 Australia 499
ALL EUROPEAN & WORLDWIDE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE Retail Agent
0171 209 4000 ABTA

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

PORTUGAL & Canaries. All areas. Villas/apts., hotels, pousadas, golf hols, flights. Longmere Int'l. 0181 684 2424. Retail agents. ABTA E1433X

UK HOLIDAYS

CENTRAL London. Superior serviced apartments. Tel:0181 451 3094 / Fax 0181 459 4422

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAKE A WISH FOR CHILDREN HAPPY MAKE A WILL

The National Children's Bureau is creating and maintaining high standards in children's services, benefiting children all over the country.
But such important work needs money.
By remembering us in your will, you can help us do so much more.
Contact Karen England on 071-278 9441 for information.
NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUREAU (Charity No. 258825)
8 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7QE

"I'll swap you one defector for Clare Short"

[illegible] 410 votes were cast by post or

Savage that such hot-blooded types

Mr Bird: no messing

A stony silence from the prest-

OBITUARIES

GEORGE MACKAY BROWN

George Mackay Brown, OBE, Scottish poet and story-writer, died in hospital in Kirkwall, Orkney, on April 13 aged 74. He was born in Stromness on October 17, 1921.

A WRITER whose work was rooted utterly in the Orkney in which his life was spent, George Mackay Brown drew his inspiration from the harsh, unadorned lives of the people of that gale-lashed and sea-beaten northern outpost. Paradoxically, his earlier work sometimes showed the lush influence of Dylan Thomas, an influence which was at odds with his natural instincts and proclivities. But he soon learnt to pare away the adjectives to produce poems of a muscular gait which reflected the rhythms of Orcadian life, with its fishing and its tilling of an unyielding soil.

The Bible, the Norse sagas and his Roman Catholicism (he converted in 1961) were powerful impulses in his work. As the years went by, it was sometimes said of him that the simplified saga-like style he adopted in his later verse, tended to militate against its poetic charge. If this be true then it was fortunate for Brown — as he himself appears to have recognised — that he developed a second string to his bow as a prose writer. If his novels had their critics, he was particularly admired as a writer of short stories which are strong in a sense of the timeless preoccupations of the people among whom he lived.

He was an enemy of the 20th century and looked on almost all its works with a sense of barely disguised horror. Some felt that as a result his poetry was not contemporary enough in its inspiration. But the fact was that to Brown historical and contemporary Orkney were one, so totally were the islands a part of his life and his mental outlook. The fishing town of Stromness, on the Hoy Sound, where he spent virtually his entire life until his final illness compelled his removal to hospital in Orkney's capital, was enough for him. In his work it was always "Hamnavoe", its ancient name. It was his Laugharne, and the doings of its people provided a rich tapestry for his creativity to work on. Indeed, the composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies bought a cottage on Hoy after reading Brown's book *An Orkney Tapestry*, and later set some of his work to music.

George Mackay Brown was the youngest of five children of a postman and part-time tailor in

Stromness. His mother, a Gaelic speaker, was from the Highlands of Scotland. He always attributed the mystical element in his work, which observers felt to be the least Orcadian feature of it, to her. At Stromness Academy, where he went to school, Brown wrote poems from an early age (his first being an ode to Stromness). His health was never good; he contracted tuberculosis which left him with chronic bronchitis, and he did not at that time go on to higher education. For a period he was Orkney correspondent for a number of mainland papers.

He continued writing and was lucky enough to strike up an acquaintance with the older Orkney poet Edwin Muir, whom he met when he resumed his education at the age of 30, attending Newbattle Abbey College, in mainland Scotland, in 1951. Muir happened to be Warden there, and took a great interest in the work of his fellow Orcadian.

Brown's first volume, *The Storm*, which was published in Kirkwall in 1954, showed him to be a poet of talent. But it was the influence of Muir that brought him to the notice of the wider world. Without telling Brown, Muir sent a selection of his verse to the Hogarth Press in London and this led to the publication of his first major collection, *Loaves and Fishes*, in 1959. Though some of the poems in *Loaves and Fishes* showed lingering traces of Dylan Thomas, the best of them established him as a fresh, new voice, seen at its most characteristic in the unforced simplicity of:

Go sad or sweet or riotous with beer
Past the old women gossiping by the hour
They'll fix on you from every close and pier
An acid look to make your veins run sour

Brown next went as a mature student to Edinburgh University where he took a degree in English in 1960. He went on to do postgraduate work on Gerard Manley Hopkins.

By the time of his third volume *The Year of the Whale* (1965) Brown had already become a convert to Roman Catholicism, and a deepening vein of religious seriousness is evident in the collection. Brown's feeling for, and natural delight in, the beauty of the natural world is frequently reined in by his taste for austerity. The biblical temper of his mind continued to be indicated by the title of his next collection, *Fishermen with Ploughs*, a poem cycle set on the island of Hoy and describing the colonisation of Orkney by the Vikings, which was published in 1971. The title also expressed Brown's conviction of the abiding importance of the twin pillars of Orkney life — husbandry and fishing.

Some critics found it bare of ideas, rather than merely spare in its mode of expression. Yet a collection, *Poems New and Selected*, published the same year in London (and two years later in New York) gave the lie to the idea that Brown's creative vein had already been worked out, and enabled readers to savour the full range of his gifts. The opening lines of "Horsemen and Seals" are an example of the undemonstrative yet deep love with which Brown views his fellow islanders.

On the green holm they built their church.
There were three arches.
They walked to the village across the ebb.
From this house they got milk.
A farmer cut and carted their peats.
On their rock
Fishermen left a basket of mouthing silver.

In the meantime Brown had already begun to write prose. The stories in *A Calendar of Love* (1967) were admired for the simple beauty of the language in which they celebrated the power of earth, sky and sea, and the elemental island lives heroically battling down the centuries against that uncompromising backdrop. *A Time to Keep*, a second collection of stories, published in 1969, was praised for similar qualities and reviewers murmured of a new Turgenev. But Brown's first novel, *Greenvoe* (1972) suggested that the longer form was not really his metier. It seemed palpably, merely a series of short stories stitched together. More puzzlingly, it abandoned the austere tone and structure of his finest writing, seeming instead to suggest a relapse into the rolling Dylan Thomas style prose poetry of his earliest work. There were further novels, among them *Magnus* (1973), the story of the 12th-century Earl of Orkney who became St Magnus the Martyr.

Brown also wrote a number of plays of which *Witch* and *A Spell for Green Corn* were produced at the Edinburgh Festival in 1969 and 1970. His opera libretto *The Martyrdom of St Magnus* was set by Sir Peter Maxwell Davies and produced in Kirkwall, London and Santa Fe. Brown also produced a son et lumière text, *A Celebration for Magnus* (1987), for Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, and a further opera libretto for the composer was *The Two Fiddlers* (1978), an adaptation of the story by Brown.

Brown continued to publish poetry and short stories. His poetry and prose tended to converge in his later work. He was never a great creator of character in the tradition of mainstream novel and story writing, but rather an observer, a setter of scene, and a purveyor of bardic utterance. As civilisation marched on past him, its technical trappings eroding the empire of the imagination, he lamented a vanishing world with redoubled force. "We cannot live fully without the treasury our ancestors have left to us. Without the story — in which everyone living, unborn and dead, participates — men are no more than bits of paper blown on the cold wind."

Brown was appointed OBE in 1974 and had honorary degrees from Dundee, Glasgow and the Open University. He never married.

JACK SPRINGETT

Jack Springett, CBE, County Education Officer, Essex, 1973-80, died on March 15 aged 80. He was born on February 1, 1916.

NOWADAYS it is fashionable to denigrate local education authorities and easy to forget their record of achievement and the corps of distinguished education officers who worked for them. Jack Springett was one of these.

The son of a Windsor sign-writer, Jack Allan Springett was educated at the local grammar school before going up to read mathematics at Fitzwilliam House, Cambridge. A Wrangler, in 1938 he joined the staff of Christ's Hospital, Horsham, where, apart from the war years, he stayed until 1947. He served in the Royal Signals and on the General Staff, mainly at the War Office and, from 1944 to 1946, in Washington.

Springett entered educational administration in 1947 and served his apprenticeship with Barraclough in the North Riding between then and 1952. It was a tough school but one which provided a fund of good stories — thirty years later he still used them to entertain and instruct friends and colleagues. This early grounding in Yorkshire was firmly consolidated during the subsequent ten years which Springett spent working for Lionel (later Sir Lionel) Russell in Birmingham.

The next move was to Essex in 1962 where Springett spent 18 years, first as Deputy and then from 1973 as County Education Officer. One of the largest counties, Essex, with its mixture of urban and rural problems, provided challenges which he relished. He quickly made his mark as he turned his razor-sharp mind to the complexities of massive building programmes, as well as to budgets and reorganisation plans.

Never afraid of precedents, he thoroughly enjoyed the scope for innovation which further education provided and he was especially involved in the early development of management education in the county.

As Chief Education Officer Springett was increasingly drawn into national affairs. He contributed in many ways as an education adviser to the Association of County Councils but it was perhaps in the arcana of rate support grant and higher education funding that he was at his numerate best. His interest in further education was reflected in his appointment as a member of the then newly-established Technician Education Council. He also served his fellow county education officers as chairman of their society.

Springett was widely respected in Essex. He enjoyed the confidence of the Education Committee and of his professional colleagues. He had prodigious energy, was a positive thinker and cared very much about children and young people. He was charming, sociable and totally unstuffy. His patience, although great, was not, however, endless and on occasion he would puncture an inflated ego or fail to suffer a fool gladly. All in all, he was an admirable chief and a welcome breath of fresh air in County Hall. He was appointed CBE in 1978.

In 1980, at an age when many would think it time to stand down, he made a surprise move to the Association of Metropolitan Authorities where, until 1982, he continued to be involved in educational policy at national level. In "retirement" Springett engaged in consultancy work; tutored for the Open University; was a founder director of the Chelmsford Cathedral Festival; and served as honorary director of WPF, Chelmsford, a counselling organisation. But he was also very much at home in his garden or in the painstaking restoration of a Victorian dining table. It was typical of him that he set about learning Greek before a walking holiday in the Peloponnese. He also became a talented amateur painter and in 1995 enjoyed the last of several painting holidays in Italy.

He is survived by his wife Patricia, whom he married in 1950, and by a daughter and three sons.

IAN SPURLING

Ian Spurling, ballet designer, died of a heart condition in Guy's Hospital on April 7 aged 58. He was born in South Australia on June 18, 1937.

IAN SPURLING loved to fill the stage with exuberant colour. Among his ballet designs were a whole series for Kenneth MacMillan that shone exuberantly through the Covent Garden proscenium arch, enlivening that staid auditorium with a burst of bright reds and blues and greens, the costumes decorated with unusual wit and more than a touch of camp.

Surprisingly, the man himself, at least in maturity, had none of this flamboyance, being quiet and shy with anyone newly met, unless they could draw him out through shared enthusiasms, such as his Betjemanesque delight in English architecture. During a career that sometimes progressed slowly, he had known serious hardship, supporting himself by the most menial jobs, but had shown courage and determination in gradually overcoming his problems.

He studied in Adelaide before coming to the Slade School of Art in London. Another Australian designer, Barry Kay, gave the 24-year-old Spurling his first important break when Western Theatre Ballet was preparing a programme of ballets from the between-the-wars period for the 1961 Edinburgh Festival and a London showing at Sadler's Wells. Kay, some five years older and already a known force, was in charge of the design concept and provided an adaptable basic setting of rostrums within which he himself for Milhaud's Helmud's *Salade*, Arthur Boyd for Stravinsky's *Renard* and Spurling for Weill and Brecht's *Seven Deadly Sins* were to work.

Spurling's colourful costumes proved attractive, likewise his idea of using large blocks, like outsize versions of a child's building bricks, to announce the individual themes. He was doubly fortunate in that this ballet not only proved the most successful of the evening (partly through the performances of Anya Lindon and Cleo Laine to dance and sing the two aspects of the heroine Anna), but also brought him together for the first time with MacMillan, its choreographer.

Spurling soon had two more small commissions from Western Theatre Ballet, for Peter Darrell's amusing rock ballet *Non Stop*, and for a comic trio of Edwardian bathers, *Valse Excentrique*, made by MacMillan for a gala. He had to wait until 1973 to get his work inside the Royal Opera House, with an enlarged version of *The Seven Deadly Sins*.

But that was followed the next year with Spurling's biggest hit, *Elite Syncopations*, again from MacMillan. In this, Spurling's costumes for the dancers, and for the onstage orchestra, were so profusely decorated with stripes, stars, swirls and arrows (often pointing in naughty directions) that press comment varied from "harlequin-like" to a comparison with liquorice allsorts. Widely thought, at its premiere, to be a lightweight novelty, the ballet has, in fact, been often revived at Covent Garden and mounted for Sadlers Wells Royal Ballet, the National Ballet of Canada, the Bavarian State Ballet and the Houston Ballet.

Spurling enjoyed several further collaborations with MacMillan, most notably on *La Fin du Jour* (very between-the-wars, to a Ravel concerto) and the latest production of the Stravinsky *Danses Concertantes*. This was set among the Art Deco tiles and gleaming chrome of a municipal swimming pool — an idea prompted by Spurling's newfound delight in such architecture when his doctor advised swimming as helpful for a heart condition.

Other choreographers with whom Spurling worked were Jonathan Burrows for *The Winter Play*, inspired by folklore, and Matthew Hart for his recent *Peter and the Wolf*. He had been preparing designs for Hart's next work, with English National Ballet, when he suffered a stroke a few weeks ago and had to be admitted to hospital.

Spurling also designed operas, including Peter Maxwell Davies's works for children, *The Two Fiddlers* and *Cinderella*, and devised costumes for the rock singer Freddie Mercury. It was in ballet, however, that he made his most memorable contribution. He also taught, most recently at the Central St Martin's College of Art and Design, where he advised students on their work for the annual Peter Williams Design for Dance Project.

Darcy Bussell in an Ian Spurling-designed costume for *Elite Syncopations*

LUCIE CHRISTIE

Lucie Christie, widow of J. T. Christie, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, 1949-67, died on April 6 aged 95. She was born on February 9, 1901.

LUCIE CHRISTIE was one of the last of a dying breed — talented wives who devoted themselves entirely to their husbands' careers. She was an ideal partner for John Christie during his headmasterships of Repton and Westminster and his principalship of Jesus College, Oxford.

Nowadays, a woman with personal and intellectual gifts such as hers, would have carved out a career of her own. For Lucie it was enough that she had supported her husband, particularly during the difficult war years of Westminster's evacuation to Herefordshire, and had been the family's anchor ever since after leaving her native Ireland in 1933 to join her then newly appointed husband in the headmaster's house at Repton.

Born in Bray in Co Wicklow, she was the daughter of Thomas Le Fanu, Permanent Secretary for the Board of Works for Ireland. She was immensely proud of her Huguenot heritage through the Le Fanus and of her Sheridan connection through her great-great-grandmother, Richard Brinsley's sister.

Not surprisingly, she was intensely independent, not to say unconventional (many Old Westminsters will remember her carrying buckets of food across Little Dean's Yard to feed her hens), as well as linguistically gifted; she wrote a novel, short stories and articles and spoke French from her childhood. Her father could not afford to send her to Cambridge, but her travel, her reading, her interest in art and music, enriched by her background and by voluntary social work, enabled her easily to hold her own as the wife of a head of house in Oxford.

She was a strikingly good-looking and generous hostess, keeping open house to family and friends, boys and undergraduates, visiting scholars and their families, schoolmasters and dons. Above all, she loved the young, who in their turn found her irresistible. Fearless, dependable, warm and welcoming, but not to be trifled with and having a sure grasp of essentials, she was of her own person; yet so varied were her qualities that she could still be all things to all people.

Her husband died in 1980 and she is survived by her two daughters.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev John Finder, Rector, St Andrew and the Church of the Resurrection, Farlington: to be *also* Rural Dean of Portsmouth (Portsmouth).

The Rev Graeme Rainey, Assistant Curate, Maltby Team Ministry (Sheffield): to be Anglican Chaplain to the University of Reading (Oxford).

The Rev Christine Redgrave, Team Vicar, Bracknell Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Woolhampton w Midgham and Beenham Valence (Oxford).

The Rev James Rhodes-Wrigley: nsw Curate (NSM), Whyke w Rumboldswhyke and Portfield (Chichester).

The Rev Sean Robertshaw, Assistant Curate, Morley St Peter and Churwell All Saints: to be Team Vicar, Upper Holme Valley Team Ministry, to work with the parishes of New Mill, Thurstonland and Thongsbridge and to be involved with youth work within the Team (Wakefield).

The Rev Eileen Routh, Vicar, Woodnesborough w Worth and Staple: to be Vicar, Maidstone St Martin (Canterbury).

The Rev Jon Russell, Vicar, St Peter, Shorwell w Kingston, Rector, St Olave, Gatcombe w Chillerton, and Rector, St Andrew, Chale, Isle of Wight: to be *also* Rural Dean of West Wight, (Portsmouth).

The Rev Bill Sanders, Priest-in-charge, St Bridget, Wavertree: to be *also* Priest-in-charge, St Thomas, Wavertree (Liverpool).

The Rev Richard Smith, Vicar, St Thomas, Southborough (Rochester): to be Priest-in-charge, The Good Shepherd, Lake and St Saviour, Shanklin, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth).

The Rev Shirley Smith, Assistant Curate, Totton (Winchester): to be Team Chaplain, Portsmouth Hospitals Chaplaincy Team Ministry (Portsmouth).

The Rev Richard Thomas: New Curate (NSM), Stansted and Forestside (Chichester).

The Rev John Thorogood, Priest-in-charge, The Camelot parishes Team Ministry: to be *also* Rural Dean of Bruton and Cary (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Dirk van Leeuwen, Chaplain of St Boniface, Antwerp, Belgium: to be also a Canon of Holy Trinity Pro-Cathedral, Brussels (Europe).

The Rev Nigel Venning, Rector, Staplegrove: to be also Rural Dean of Taunton (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Penny West, Vicar, Kewstoke and Wick St Lawrence: to be *also* a Prebendary of Wells Cathedral.

The Rev Moira Wickens, Parish Deacon (NSM), Ilfield Team Ministry: to be Parish Deacon, Saltdean (Chichester).

The Rev David Williamson, Project Worker for The Children's Society: to be Youth and Children's Adviser, with special responsibility for Taunton archdeaconry (Bath and Wells).

The Rev Keith Wood, Vicar, St John the Divine, West Worthing: to be Rector, Winchelsea and Icklesham (Chichester).

The Rev Robert Wright, Vicar, St Mary, Portsea (Portsmouth): to be *also* an Honorary Canon of Portsmouth Cathedral.

Resignations and retirements

Prebendary Terry Stokes, Team Rector, Wellington and District Team Ministry (Bath and Wells): to resign as Rural Dean of Tone June 1.

The Rev Alistair Sutherland, Rector, St George's, Barton-in-Fabis, Vicar, All Saints', Thrumpton, Priest-in-charge, St Winifred's, Kingston-on-Soar and Holy Trinity, Ratcliffe-on-Soar and St Lawrence's, Gotham: and Diocesan Adviser on Industrial Society, and Chaplain to The Boots Company (Southwell): retired April 12.

LITTLE THEATRE "WHITEOAKS"

By MAZO DE LA ROCHE

Renny	ROBERT NEWTON
Finch	STEPHEN HAGGARD
Piers	ELLIS IRVING
Aunt Augusta	JANE SAVILE
Uncle Ernest	FRANK BIRCH
Uncle Nicholas	AUBREY DEXTER
Wakefield	TONY WICKHAM
Pheasant	JILL FURSE
Adeline	NANCY PRICE
Meg	ELIZABETH MAUDE
Mr. Paston	JOHN GARSIDE

The special risk taken by Miss Mazo de la Roche in choosing, among her novels, "Whiteoaks" for translation to the stage, was that the grandmother, being 101 years old and designed for domination, might run away with the play, leaving the rest of the Whiteoak family with no life of their own. This difficulty has been avoided, partly because the dramatist herself has skilfully preserved her proportions, partly because the old lady is treated by Miss Nancy Price with discretion and not with selfishness, but chiefly because two members of the family, Mr. Robert Newton's Renny and Mr. Stephen Haggard's Finch, are so represented that their vitality is assured. The result is a play which, though a trifle weak in dramatic impetus and too often dependent for its interest on the minor details of domestic felicity and infelicity, gives a persuasive account of the Whiteoaks group — the old lady with money to leave, her sons and grandsons to any one of whom she may leave it, and the youth Finch, a musical alien among this hard-riding set, who receives her fortune. The compression inevitable in the dramatic form has made some of these characters into stage-types, but even they are entertaining in their kind. Mr. Aubrey Dexter in particular giving a good sketch in the Belcher tradition, and Miss Jill Furse discovering a certain tension in the girl called Pheasant. But apart from Miss Price's study of the old lady, which has shrewdness and vigour, if no great depth, the life of the play is in Mr. Haggard's clumsy, shy, tautly-strung boy, and, even more remarkably — for here the obvious opportunities are less — in Mr. Newton's portrait of the elder brother, who is more fully revealed than any other character in the piece, and is continuously interesting to watch.

ON THIS DAY

April 15, 1936

*The play **Whiteoaks**, which ran for over 800 performances, had its roots in the many popular novels about a Canadian family by Mazo de la Roche (1885-1961).*

INCOMPATABILITY OF STARS

FROM OUR VIENNA CORRESPONDENT

A Viennese Court has granted a separation order to a plaintiff whose wife had left him for the strange reason that he was born under a star unsympathetic to her own. The two had been happily married for 10 years, the husband having been given preference over two other suitors because he had been born on August 18, when the Lion was in the ascendant. This, as she had learned from his horoscope, pre-destined him to be an ideal mate for a woman who had been born under Aquarius. But after 10 years the husband told the wife that his birthday was really August 28. She consulted the firmament and found that she could not possibly live any longer with a man who had really been born under Virgo, a constellation antagonistic to Aquarius. The Court gave a separation order, with the rider that blame for the rupture of the union rested with the wife alone.

NEWS

400,000 flee raids on Lebanon

■ Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, walks into a diplomatic minefield when he becomes the first senior foreign politician to visit Israel since the launch of Operation Grapes of Wrath, the military onslaught on Lebanon.

With the number of panic-stricken refugees now exceeding 400,000, some ministers are understood to agree with President Chirac, who described the operation as "disproportionate" ..... Pages 1, 10

British beef safe, says EU farm chief

■ Farmers joined furious Tory backbenchers and Euro-MPs in calling for an end to the EU ban on British beef after Franz Fischler, the European Agriculture Commissioner, said the ban had been imposed to calm consumer panic over "mad cow" disease, not because British beef was a risk ..... Pages 1, 2

Blair undermined

Tony Blair's campaign to reassure middle-income voters was undermined when Clare Short suggested that people earning £34,000 a year should pay more tax ..... Page 1

Goldsmith challenge

The billionaire financier Sir James Goldsmith increased the pressure on John Major over Europe when he announced he would field 600 candidates in the next election ..... Page 2

Old Masters 'at risk'

Sir Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, was embroiled in controversy over a collection of Old Masters at Kenwood House on Hampstead Heath ..... Page 3

Royal mistake

Colluding with Harold Macmillan to block the succession of R. A. Butler as Prime Minister in 1963 was the biggest political misjudgment of the Queen's reign, a new book claims ..... Page 4

Operation approved

A life-saving operation for rectal cancer has been approved by the Royal College of Surgeons after years of campaigning by a consultant ..... Page 5

Offenders 'selected'

Thirty-two young offenders are to be "selected" for a sentence of military discipline in the armed services' glasshouse at Colchester ..... Page 6

Bakewell debate

It is the food said to have sustained Jane Austen when she was writing *Pride and Prejudice* and is the subject sustaining much debate in Bakewell. The issue is whither the pudding? ..... Page 8

SAS men guard eggs

A detachment of SAS troops have dug themselves in to an oak forest in mid-Wales to protect one of Britain's rarest birds of prey from egg collectors ..... Page 8

Clinton starts tour

President Clinton left Washington for a trip that will take him round the world and, aides hope, boost his stature before the presidential election ..... Page 11

Hospital bombed

A bomb devastated a cancer hospital founded in Lahore by Imran Khan, the former Pakistani cricketer, killing six people and wounding at least 25 ..... Page 12

Hearings open

The city hall in East London, South Africa, will fall silent as Archbishop Desmond Tutu bows his head in prayer to mark the opening of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings ..... Page 12

Late entry

It could be too late for Britain to join Europe's single currency at its birth, according to officials from the big European powers and the Commission ..... Page 13

US vigilante faces $50m lawsuit

■ New York is debating again the actions of a white man who defended himself against four black youths by shooting them. Bernhard Goetz was acquitted of criminal assault, but a Bronx court will resume with a civil suit brought by one of the youths who menaced him for money. Then they demanded $5 (£3.20). This time the amount is ten million times more ..... Page 11

JULIAN HERBERT

Peter Borg with his Amazon parrot, which won Britain's Cleverest Bird contest at Alexandra Palace in London yesterday

BUSINESS

Bosnia: British companies are hoping to be awarded their first contracts for the reconstruction of Bosnia ..... Page 44

Building societies: Bristol & West will announce details of bonus payments after a planned £600 million takeover by the Bank of Ireland ..... Page 44

Power: John Battle, Labour's energy spokesman, said the leaking of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on two big electricity company takeovers has cast doubt on the integrity of Britain's competition regime ..... Page 44

Lloyd's: High Court action will decide whether Lloyd's of London has the right to seize any court awards made to litigating names ..... Page 40

ARTS

Monkey business: Terry Gilliam, the subversive film-maker once best known for his *Monty Python* animations, is the object of considerable trepidation in Hollywood, thanks to his new movie, *Twelve Monkeys* ..... Page 14

Theatrical tribute: Hylda Baker, the minute North Country comedienne, is re-embodied in a show written and performed at the West Yorkshire Playhouse by Jean Fergusson ..... Page 14

Pop flop: The basis of Natalie Merchant's appeal remains a mystery after her first London show as a solo act ..... Page 14

Musical high: The South Bank launches its Harrison Birtwistle festival with a staging of *The Mask of Orpheus* ..... Page 15

FEATURES

The future of work: Day one of a two-part series takes a look at the winners and the losers in a revolution that is turning our working lives upside-down ..... Page 16

Brave new world: Jeremy Rifkin, a leading economic forecaster, argues that we are fast approaching a workerless world as computers take over much of the labour performed by humans ..... Page 16

Basic questions: Office life is a 20th-century phenomenon, but many of us work in inefficient, unhealthy environments that are not cost-effective ..... Page 16

Take control: Does the world seem rather drab? Do you lack a sense of interest or achievement? Ian Robertson on people who don't get enough from work ..... Page 17

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **ART PLEA**
Richard Cork on why it's do or die for London's overlooked Hayward Gallery

■ **LAW**
Why the average court day is not fair to prisoners

SPORT

Football: Newcastle revived their hopes of winning the Premiership title by beating Aston Villa 1-0, so taking advantage of Manchester United's defeat by Southampton ..... Page 23

Rugby union: The Rugby Football Union, in bitter dispute with its leading clubs, is now at odds with Scotland, Wales and Ireland over television money ..... Page 24

Golf: Greg Norman, with a six-stroke lead going into the final round of the Masters in Augusta, was looking forward to being presented with his first green jacket ..... Page 25

Cricket: David Lloyd, England's coach, who starts his duties next weekend, hopes to be able to take some of the pressure off the captain, Michael Atherton ..... Page 31

Rugby league: St Helens maintained their 100 per cent Super League record with a hard-fought 26-20 win over Bradford Bulls, a rehearsal for the Challenge Cup final at Wembley ..... Page 24

American football: William "The Refrigerator" Perry was upstaged by Gavin Hastings, the former Scotland full back, as London Monarchs went down 24-21 to Scottish Claymores in the World League ..... Page 32

LOTTERY NUMBERS

23, 38, 40, 44, 47, 49. Bonus: 12. Three ticket holders each claim £3,836,607.

TELEVISION

Preview: A portrait of Spike Milligan reveals a sad clown with a strong sense of the absurd in *Omnibus: Spike (BBC1 10.10pm)*.

Review: Anybody expecting routine reconstruction of the Battle of Culloden will have been amazed by what they saw. Lynne Truss was ..... Page 43

Israel at war

The Jewish state is girding itself for a prolonged and bloody battle with Hezbollah, the Shia organisation sponsored, armed and funded by Syria and Iran ..... Page 19

Veronese verities

The drivers of the single currency traion may like to say they are picking up speed as they leave the station. But they have still not found a way to drag Britain towards the political disaster monetary union represents ..... Page 19

Scotland's scar

Culloden saw the defeat 250 years ago of Charles Edward Stuart's pretensions to the throne and the underpinning of commercially confident Hanoverian rule ..... Page 19

OBITUARIES

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Economics ought to be the trump card that guarantees Labour the next election. Yet after all the hardships of the Tory years, Labour leaders know that economics is still the issue that could lose them the election ..... Page 18

PETER RIDDELL

Mr Blair wondered how different his visit would have been if he had been Prime Minister. Surprisingly little, is the view of veteran Washington hands ..... Page 18

OBITUARIES

George Mackay Brown, Scottish poet and story writer; **Jack Springett**, former County Education Officer for Essex; **Ian Spurling**, ballet designer; **Lucie Christie**, widow of J. T. Christie, former Principal of Jesus College, Oxford ..... Page 20

LETTERS

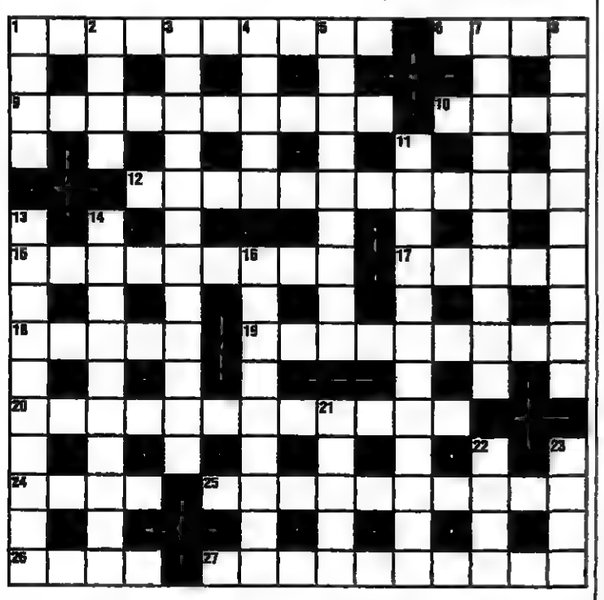
Boat people in Malaysia ... Page 19

THE LETTERS

Only cynical Syria, as the root source of the tensions on the Israeli-Lebanese border, can deliver essential assurances

— *The Washington Post*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,142



ACROSS

1 London's capital doubled, and equally shared (5-5).
6 Heard order to dismiss in brogue, for example (4).
9 Record held by the old Scotsman – Knox, perhaps (10).
10 Fail nothing at American university (4).
12 Profitable business supplying bread, with slow deliveryman (5-7).
15 Prepare to take gym equipment away? This'll take the load (9).
17 Chemical compound extracted from trees (5).
18 Future colonists are upwardly mobile (5).
19 Sand possibly thrown at us crossing rocky shore (9).
20 Protest heatedly and extend the attic? (5,3,4).
24 Decline a sort of timber (4).
25 God! What a destructive vehicle! (10).
26 Swimmers most of the rest rejected (4).
27 Female academic beginning to need a medicinal drug (10).

DOWN

1 With large corporation, English can make a fortune (4).
2 Rub away an ornamental pattern (4).
3 Coloured tool for fixing bunting (12).
4 Unmarried son leaves to make fire (5).
5 Passing a couple of poles, one plunged into river (9).
7 Give voice to puerile thoughts? Not initially in Classical Studies (10).
8 Go in and force to open for business (10).
11 Inured to home brew, being traditional (4-8).
13 Indication of possessiveness, that's addressed to absentee (10).
14 Can social reforms set about nothing that's irregular? (10).
16 It provides refreshments, by the way (9).
21 Star from New England state given assistance to rise? (5).
22 Saying nothing at first, having been cut (4).
23 Walk in Greece from Piraeus to Athens (4).

ABERLOUR

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,141 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Aberlour single highland malt whisky.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Ballykelly, Co Londonderry, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Inverbervie, Grampian, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Stornoway, Western Isles, 33mm; highest sunshine: Lowestoft, Suffolk, 9.1hr.

FLIGHT SHEETS

LONDON TO MUNICH from £99 return.

LONDON TO BRUSSELS from £79 return.

LONDON TO GLASGOW from £58 return.

Phone Air UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Subject to availability, airport tax and differing travel periods. Restrictions apply.

See Teletext p 154

Air UK

FORECAST

☐ **General:** mainly dry but some areas will have persistent drizzle. Eastern parts of England will become bright after early mist and sunshine. Elsewhere there will be a lot of cloud with western coasts and hills shrouded in fog and drizzle. Southerly winds will keep temperatures above normal, especially in the sun.

Eastern Scotland will have a bright, mainly dry day with sunny spells but the west and north, along with Northern Ireland, will be rather overcast with some rain or drizzle, especially later. Hill fog will be extensive. With winds in the south, temperatures will be normal or slightly above.

☐ **London, SE, E England, E Anglia:** dry and bright with some sunshine in the afternoon. Wind south or south-east, light or moderate. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **Central S, Central N, NE, NW England, E, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Lake District:** rather cloudy but mostly dry and bright. Wind mainly south, light or moderate. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **SW England, Wales, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland:** mostly cloudy, with hill fog. Patchy drizzle, mainly on south-facing coasts. Wind south, mainly moderate. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth:** dry with sunny spells. Wind south, moderate. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** mostly cloudy. Rain or drizzle, especially later. Wind south, moderate or fresh. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain edging eastwards. Warm in places.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 6 pm. b=bright; c=cloud, d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull, f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail, r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun, t=thunder

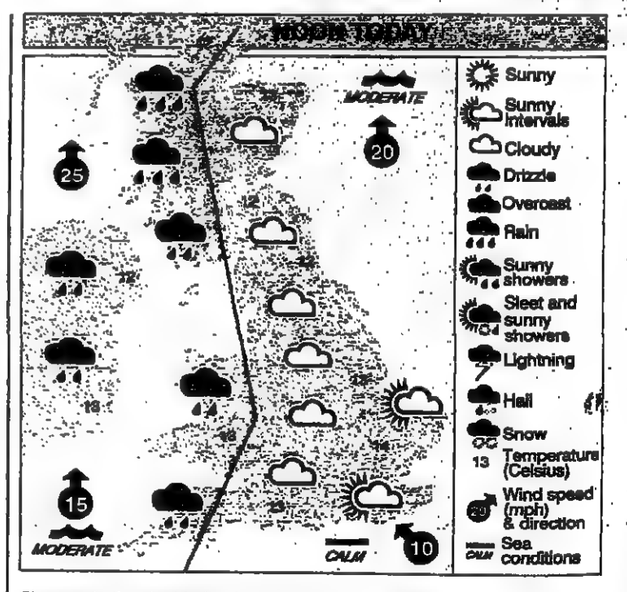
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.01	5	41	c	London	2.4	0.01	13	55	b
Aspatria	-	0.04	8	46	r	Lowestoft	9.1	-	9	48	c
Aviemore	2.6	0.01	8	46	b	Manchester	0.1	0.04	8	46	c
Belfast	1.0	0.11	7	45	r	Margate	3.7	-	10	50	du
Birmingham	3.7	0.20	10	50	b	Minehead	0.4	0.07	9	48	sh
Bognor R	2.2	0.01	11	52	c	Mmmm					
Bournem'th	1.1	0.02	10	50	r	Morecambe	-	0.05	8	46	r
Bristol	0.7	0.18	11	52	b	Newcastle	-	0.01	8	46	r
Buxton	-	0.02	7	45	sh	Newquay	X				
Cardiff	0.5	0.04	9	48	r	Norwich	7.6	-	10	50	b
Colwyn Bay	-	0.10	10	50	r	Nottingham	X				
Cromer	7.3	-	10	50	s	Oxford	2.1	0.01	11	52	r
Eastbourne	2.5	-	10	50	c	Penzance	X	0.01	13	55	s
Edinburgh	0.1	-	7	45	c	Poole	1.6	0.04	10	50	c
Eskdalemuir	-	0.01	5	41	sn	Prestatyn	X	0.09	9	48	r
Exmouth	0.6	0.04	8	46	d	Ross-o-wye	X				
Falmouth	-	-	10	50	c	Ryde	2.1	0.01	9	48	sh
Fishguard	0.6	0.06	10	50	d	Salcombe	-	0.06	9	48	r
Folkestone	3.1	-	11	52	c	Salcombe	-	0.06	9	48	r
Glasgow	-	0.10	6	43	sn	Sandown	2.0	0.01	10	50	r
Hastings	3.4	-	9	48	b	Scarrin Snd	1.1	0.05	12	54	c
Hayling I.	2.1	0.01	10	50	c	Scarboro'	0.3	-	8	46	du
Herne Bay	3.0	-	11	52	c	Shanklin	1.7	0.01	9	48	c
Hove	3.7	-	10	50	du	Shrewsbury	-	0.22	9	48	r
Hunstanton	2.2	-	11	52	c	Southend	6.6	-	10	50	s
Ilfracombe	-	-	10	50	du	Southport	-	0.05	9	48	r
Isle of Man	-	0.06	6	43	du	Southsea	1.7	-	10	50	c
Jersey	1.0	0.01	14	57	sh	Stornoway	-	0.33	6	43	r
Kinloss	1.7	-	7	45	b	Swanage	0.6	0.02	8	46	d
Leeds	-	0.01	8	46	c	Teignmouth	-	0.10	8	46	du
Lerwick	4.9	-	7	45	b	Tiree	-	0.14	5	41	sl
Leuchars	2.5	-	5	41	b	Torquay	0.5	0.06	9	48	d
Littlehmptn	-	-	11	52	c	Ventnor	2.2	0.01	10	50	c
Liverpool	X					Weymouth	1.0	0.01	8	46	r

ABROAD

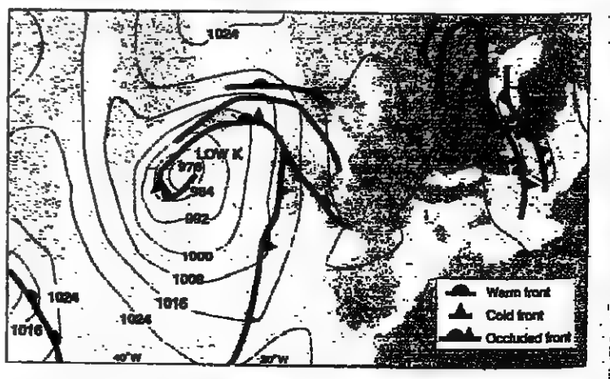
Ajaccio	18	64	s	Corfu	14	57	r	Malaga	21	70	s
Akrotiri	18	64	f	C'phagn	9	48	s	Malta	23	73	s
Alex'dria	21	70	s	Dublin	9	48	c	Melb'rne	15	59	r
Algiers	21	70	s	Dubrovnik	7	45	fg	Mexico C	24	75	s
Amst'dm	11	52	c	Faro	23	73	s	Miami	24	75	c
Athens	18	64	s	Florence	15	59	f	Milan	16	61	f
B Aires	25	77	s	Frankfurt	11	52	f	Montreal	11	52	s
Bahrain	26	79	c	Funchal	19	66	f	Moscow	11	52	c
Bangkok	27	81	f	Geneva	9	48	s	Munich	6	43	c
Barbados	30	86	f	Gibraltar	22	72	s	N Delhi	34	93	s
Barcelona	18	64	s	Helsinki	8	46	f	N York	24	75	s
Beirut	18	64	f	Hong K	23	73	f	Nairobi	26	79	f
Belgrade	5	41	f	Innsbruck	8	46	f	Naples	15	59	c
Berlin	11	52	s	Istanbul	15	59	s	Nice	15	59	c
Bermuda	18	64	f	Jeddah	29	84	s	Oslo	11	52	s
Biarritz	13	55	f	Jo'burg	18	64	f	Paris	12	54	s
Borde'x	15	59	c	L Angels	20	68	s	Peking	20	68	s
Brussels	11	52	s	L Palmas	22	72	s	Perth	25	77	f
Budapest	4	39	f	Le Touqet	12	54	f	Prague	4	39	c
Cairo	22	72	f	Lisbon	21	70	s	Reykjavik	7	45	f
Cape Tn	21	70	f	Luxembg	11	52	s	Rhodes	17	63	s
Ch'church	21	70	s	Luxor	28	82	s	Rio de J	27	81	f
Chicago	-	-	-	Madrid	22	72	s	Riyadh	28	82	s
Cologne	11	52	f	Majorca	21	70	s	Rome	9	48	r

S Fr'isco	14	57	f
S Paulo	23	73	d
Salzburg	6	43	c
Santiago	20	68	s
Seoul	15	59	s
Sing'por	33	91	f
St'kholm	11	52	f
Strasb'rg	12	54	s
Sydney	23	73	s
Tangier	21	70	s
Tel Aviv	19	66	c
Tenerife	25	77	s
Tokyo	16	61	c
Toronto	7	45	c
Tunis	21	70	f
Valencia	23	73	s
Vanc'ver	9	48	r
Venice	13	56	s
Vienna	2	36	r
Warsaw	1	34	sn
Wash'ton	22	72	f
Wel'ngton	18	64	s
Zurich	7	45	f

MOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low K will become slow moving near southwest Iceland and fill. High M will move slowly east and start to decline



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11:47	7.0	-	-	Leith	0:18	5.1	12:31	5.2
Aberdeen	11.17	3.9	-	-	Liverpool	9:08	9.0	9:38	9.0
Avonmouth	4:59	12.2	5:27	12.5	Lowestoft	7:33	2.3	7:25	2.3
Belfast	9.01	3.4	9:31	3.4	Margate	10:11	4.6	10:25	4.5
Cardiff	4.51	11.7	5.17	11.9	Milford Haven	4.06	6.5	4.34	6.5
Devonport	3:29	5.1	4:03	5.1	Newquay	2:58	6.5	3:25	6.5
Dover	9:22	6.2	9:35	6.4	Oban	3:54	3.7	4:21	3.5
Dublin (N Wall)	9:35	3.9	10:14	3.8	Penzance	2:33	5.2	3:00	5.2
Falmouth	3.01	5.0	3.33	4.8	Portland	4:26	1.8	5:04	1.9
Greenock	10.35	3.3	11.08	3.1	Portsmouth	9:14	4.4	9:45	4.6
Harwich	9:39	3.9	9:57	3.7	Shoreham	9:20	5.7	9:46	6.1
Holyhead	8.14	5.4	8:50	5.3	Southampton	8:43	4.3	9:12	4.5
Hull (Albert D)	4:12	6.8	4:10	7.1	Swansea	4:08	8.8	4:26	8.9
Ilfracombe	3.51	8.7	4.19	8.7	Tees	1:27	4.9	1:34	5.1
King's Lynn	4:04	6.2	4.23	6.6	Walton-on-Naze	9:39	4.1	9:54	4.0

Crown copyright reserved. All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.05 am
Sun sets: 7.58 pm
Moon sets 7.14 pm
Moon rises 4.56 am

London 7.58 pm to 6.02 am
Bristol 8.07 pm to 6.12 am
Edinburgh 8.20 pm to 6.04 am
Manchester 8.10 pm to 6.07 am
Penzance 8.17 pm to 6.27 am

New Moon April 17

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1996. Published and printed and licensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XY, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kirkby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HN, telephone 0151-546 2000. Monday, April 15, 1996. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

0171 209 4000 E8850

8 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7QE

هكذا من الاصل

RUGBY LEAGUE

24 Beaten Bulls rising to final challenge

GOLF

25 The day Faldo was left in Norman's shadow

CRICKET

31 Lloyd in search of England's missing spirit

SPORT FOR ALL

33 Playing a fall guy over the streets of London

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY APRIL 15 1996

FORTUNE FAVOURS THE BRAVE AS FERDINAND STRIKES

Newcastle keep title race alive

Newcastle United 1
Aston Villa 0

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

THE Blaydon Races are back on track again. Newcastle United, coming through an hour of suppressed tension at St James' Park yesterday, laid siege to Aston Villa's goalmouth, finally burst through, via Peter Beardsley's dramatic dash down the right and Les Ferdinand's uncompromising downward header, and so capitalised on Manchester United's slip at Southampton.

They won for the sixteenth time in 17 games in their own fortress and to share this reprieve with them was like seeing blood throbbing back into the corpse that was their hope of becoming champions of England again after 69 years.

Thus the FA Carling Premiership is becoming an exhausting race not merely of the fittest, but of which famous United possesses the nerve and the courage to prove themselves worthy champions. "The secret I have just discovered," Kevin Keegan said moments after yesterday's close victory, "is to play badly and win.

"Certainly, Manchester United's defeat at Southampton [who visit Tyneside on Wednesday night] gave us a tremendous lift, but then you looked at the table, you realised we had to win both of our games in hand and, this close to the end of the season, you realised that that is anything but easy. We gutsed our way past Villa this time and I can only say that my lads had to show tremendous character to come through the tension and the fear that it is no longer any use trying to pretend it isn't there.

Boost for Atkinson 26
Southampton on march 27
Derby on course 29

"David Batty has been nothing short of sensational since he walked into this club and I thought he led by example against an Aston Villa team which dominated us for long periods and which, let me tell you, are going to be there for the big prizes next season."

As ever, Keegan's honesty shines through. He is right to admit that his team were taut to the point of frozen with fear beneath a slate grey Newcastle sky, but, when the turning point came, it was down to management as well as the heart and soul of the players in their black and white stripes. For Keegan, pilloried of late for his stubborn refusal to abdicate the belief that cavalier football can actually win the title, had rearranged his team in the dressing room at half-time and had thrown them forward in a 3-4-3 formation that deployed Watson on the right of midfield and Elliott as a third centre back. Suddenly, after looking vulnerable in a cagey contest, Newcastle were flowing again, bearing down at Villa from all angles, all areas of the field, *daring* to win rather than fearing defeat.

It took courage. In the first half, Beresford had slipped six yards from goal and presented Yorke with the ball; Villa's striker from Tobago, such a predator this season, was taken by surprise and, though the angle was narrow, should have done better than hit the side netting. Milosevic, his Serbian partner, should have scored in both halves, missing with his favoured left foot from only a matter of eight or ten yards on three occasions.

Shortly after Milosevic's third wasted opportunity, it became obvious how adventurous, or misadventurous, Keegan's forces still were. They had only Peacock and Albert back against Yorke and Milosevic, exposed to say the least — but the cavaliers prospered, for it was from this thirst to win the match that the break came.

Beardsley — Peter Pan as they call him — rolled back his now considerable years as he sprinted forwards on the right flank. He had performed throughout closer to his preferred role in central midfield, but now the green acres of space were there and his willingness propelled him forward. On the run, with the precision that he could patent, he picked out Ferdinand with a chipped centre that would have done full justice among the azaleas of the Augusta championship.

Bosnich, who had, up to then, done everything right in the Villa goal, blinked — you might, also, if you saw Ferdinand coming at you with absolutely no thought for physical safety — and in that blink of an eye, the forehead of the England centre forward met the ball and forced it over the line for his 28th goal of the season, the goal which reopens England's championship yet again.

Newcastle stand three points behind Manchester United, with a game in hand and with a goal difference of only two between the protagonists. They stand with their nerves so clearly exposed that, in the 26th minute, Keegan, who spent his afternoon closer to the pitch than the dugout, attempted to shout instructions to his left back, Beresford. Beresford clearly shouted back at his manager and just as clearly Keegan, as he has before, gave no leeway to an abusive player. He substituted him with Elliott, who, as it turned out, was a more flexible friend to Peacock and the restrained Albert in defence.

When all had calmed, Keegan said: "I told him what I thought he was doing wrong [leaving Charles with too much room to break down Villa's right], but the way he answered me was not the way any player should talk to his manager. He's done well for Newcastle this season, but Elliott has been pushing for a place. This lad [Elliott] has got guts and I had no hesitation in making the change."

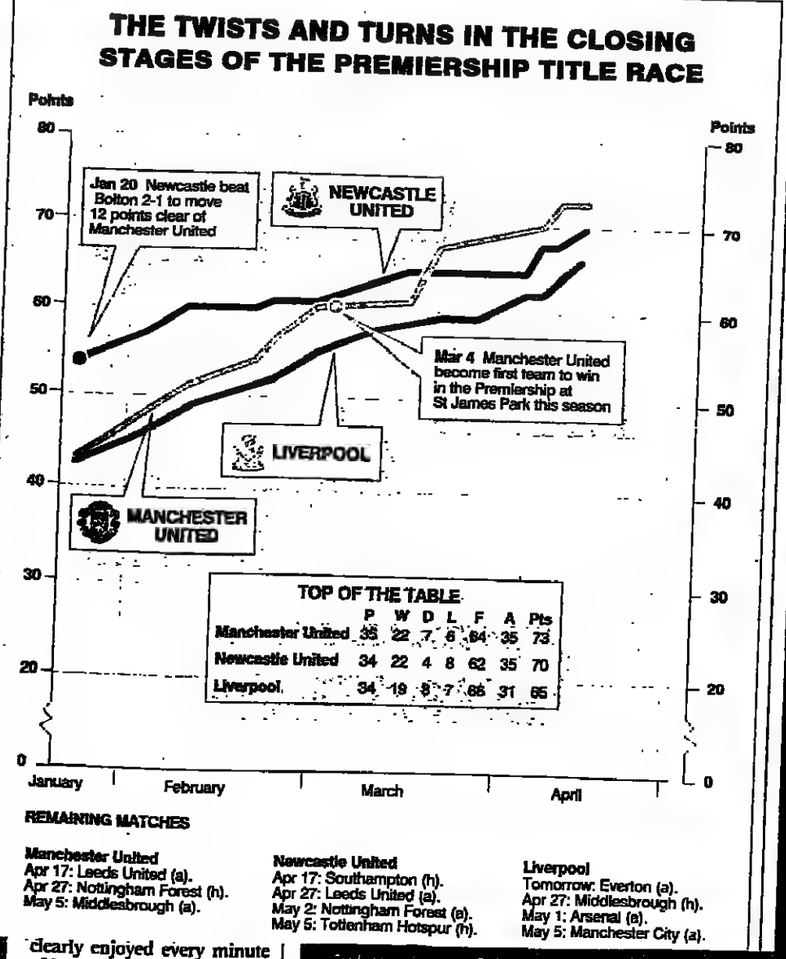
The dispute should be forgotten quickly. Better to remember how manfully Batty strove, how lastingly Asprilla tried to trick and bemuse Villa and how hungrily Ferdinand's goal breathed new life into a championship that will be remembered for decades to come.

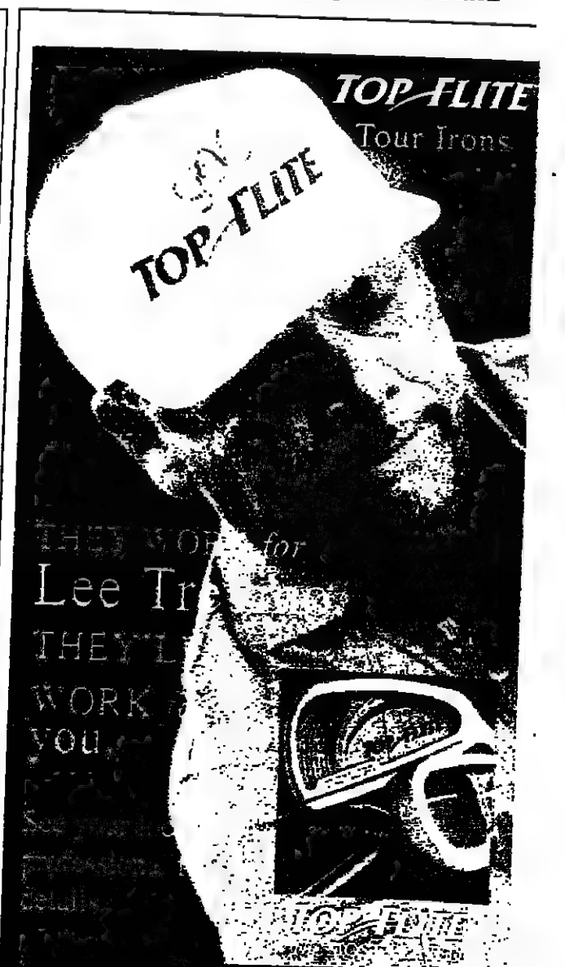
NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2): S Hislop — S Watson, D Peacock, P Albert, J Beresford (sub: R Elliott, 25min) — R Lee, P Beardsley, D Batty, D Ginola — F Asprilla, L Ferdinand

ASTON VILLA (3-4-1-2): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, P McGrath, I Taylor — G Charles, M Draper, A Townsend, A Wright — T Johnson (sub: R Scimeca, 60) — S Milosevic, D Yorke (sub: J Joachim 70)

Referee: M Reed

Ferdinand drills his match-winning header past a helpless Ehiogu and Bosnich at St James' Park yesterday, reviving Newcastle's Premiership hopes. Photograph: Raoul Dixon





produced it would be Colin Montgomerie, now down to large from extra large after a

clearly enjoyed every minute of it, green jacket or no green

Montgomerie has found Augusta a frustrating place

Uneasy Rider forced to sit and wait for CBS

MATTHEW BOND

TV ACTION REPLAY

Good morning and welcome to this week's column. We should have live sentences with you any minute now, just as soon as my American colleague gets around to writing them. In the meantime, sit back, relax and enjoy highlights from a few columns I wrote earlier.

Not the most enticing of starts is it? But that is pretty much all poor Steve Rider had to offer as he presented the third round of the Masters from Augusta on Saturday night. He was there, we were there, but, sadly, golf came there none. The BBC's Mr Unflappable looked a little flapped.

"We're, er, just awaiting pictures from our colleagues at CBS," he explained, pointing out that full coverage was scheduled to begin when Norman and Faldo reached the 8th or 9th hole. The bad news was that at that precise moment Norman and Faldo were making their way to the 5th tee.

So, in the meantime ... we had just about every Augusta highlight the BBC could lay its hands on. Gene Sarazen still driving straight at 94, assorted holes-in-one from the par-three tournament on Wednesday, and lots of matey chat from Peter Alliss. Personally, I would have settled for extended highlights of Norman's record-equalling round of 63, but that is my fault for missing it on Thursday.

Any way, after about half an hour of inspired improvisation, Rider's American colleagues at CBS finally took pity on him. Normal service was resumed. But not for long. Less than ten minutes later Rider was back, the strain beginning to show through that famous smile. "After that positive glut of live golf," he explained rather tetchily, "CBS are now on a commercial break." Judging by the frequency with which Rider returned for two-minute chats with Alliss, Alex Hay or Dave Marr, CBS spent a large proportion of the weekend on commercial breaks. But that, after all, is what you expect from American television.

But it is not what you expect from British television and, hard as both Rider and Alliss tried to pin the blame for the obvious shortcomings in the coverage (it often seemed to be edited by computer rather than a human being) on to the American host broadcaster, it was difficult to believe that the BBC could not have done better. The Masters — helped enormously by a time difference that delivers the best of the action during weekend prime-time — is one of the jewels in the BBC's sporting year. Even when Greg Norman has a six-stroke lead, the final round is still compulsory Sunday night viewing.

But jewels need polishing and the BBC's coverage of the tournament is looking badly in need of bit of love and attention — not to mention money — if it is not to be left behind. As the BBC's coverage of the Open Championship always makes clear, the corporation sets the highest possible standards for golf coverage. It should not settle for less from anyone else.

For the Ryder Cup last year, BSkyB showed what can be done with the constant interruptions of American coverage. In that case, pictures from Oak Hill were provided by NBC, but BSkyB brought in Tour Productions specifically to augment the American coverage and make it more palatable to British viewers. When it became clear that NBC would not be covering the golf for three hours on the final day (it had a college football game to show), the satellite channel spent £500,000 installing 15 of its own cameras around the course. When NBC went off air, the difference was negligible.

At Augusta, when CBS was off air, so — pretty much — was the BBC. It appears to have taken three cameras to the Masters — one to train on Rider and his hard-working interviewees (Marr on particularly good form) and two to ensure that some of the home-grown also-rans got their moment of television glory. But for half an hour on Saturday night those cameras provided the only pictures of Norman and Faldo. In the circumstances, they did extremely well, but the point is those circumstances should not have existed.

Bradford's fightback augurs well for final

St Helens	26
Bradford Bulls	20

By Christopher Irvine

IF SHOWTIME at Wembley on Saturday week lives up to the pulsating dress-rehearsal yesterday, then the first Wigan-less rugby league Silk Cut Challenge Cup final for nine years will be something to savour.

St Helens, seemingly runaway winners 24-8 up at half-time, crawled tired and relieved across the finishing line after a torrid second half to cling to the only unbeaten record at the top of the Stones Super League.

Bradford Bulls had been meekly hurded into a corner, with all the one-sided fears that implied for Wembley, when they charged back in the second period, to St Helens' very near embarrassment.

The price for St Helens was the dismissal of Vila Matautia seven minutes from the finish, for use of an elbow on Knox.

Full results and league tables ..... Page 34

The Western Samoa forward has a date with the Rugby Football League disciplinary committee on Thursday. Anything more than a one-match ban will mean him missing the final.

Sonny Nickle, too, could find himself in trouble. The Bradford forward was placed on report by the referee for apparently lashing out with his boot at Leathem.

Not that it was a spiteful encounter; far from it. More than any game so far in Super League, this one bristled with skill and a commitment that impressed Brian Smith, the Bradford coach. "It was tough, uncompromising, everything that rugby league should be," he said. "If you weren't stirred by this game, there's no hope for you."

Smith was critical of his side's finishing, however. Five chances eluded them and three missed goals by the normally reliable Cook proved costly. In a space of five minutes, when trailing 12-24, Bradley lobbed an impossible pass to the unmarked Scales, and McTigue-Mott and the otherwise admirable Lowes, with the tryline beckoning, fumbled the greasy ball.

Subsequently, Scales burst clear but was pulled back for an earlier offence, and Paul was cut down in full flight by Arnold's saving cover tackle, before St Helens' defence finally cracked again in allowing Calland his third try. To score a hat-trick and end up on the losing side spoke volumes for Bradford's effort.

St Helens, if they did not appreciate it beforehand, know that to get sucked into Bradford's driving, close-quarters forward game is something they do at their peril. On Wembley's wide acres, and with the pace in their side, they must look to stretch Bradford.

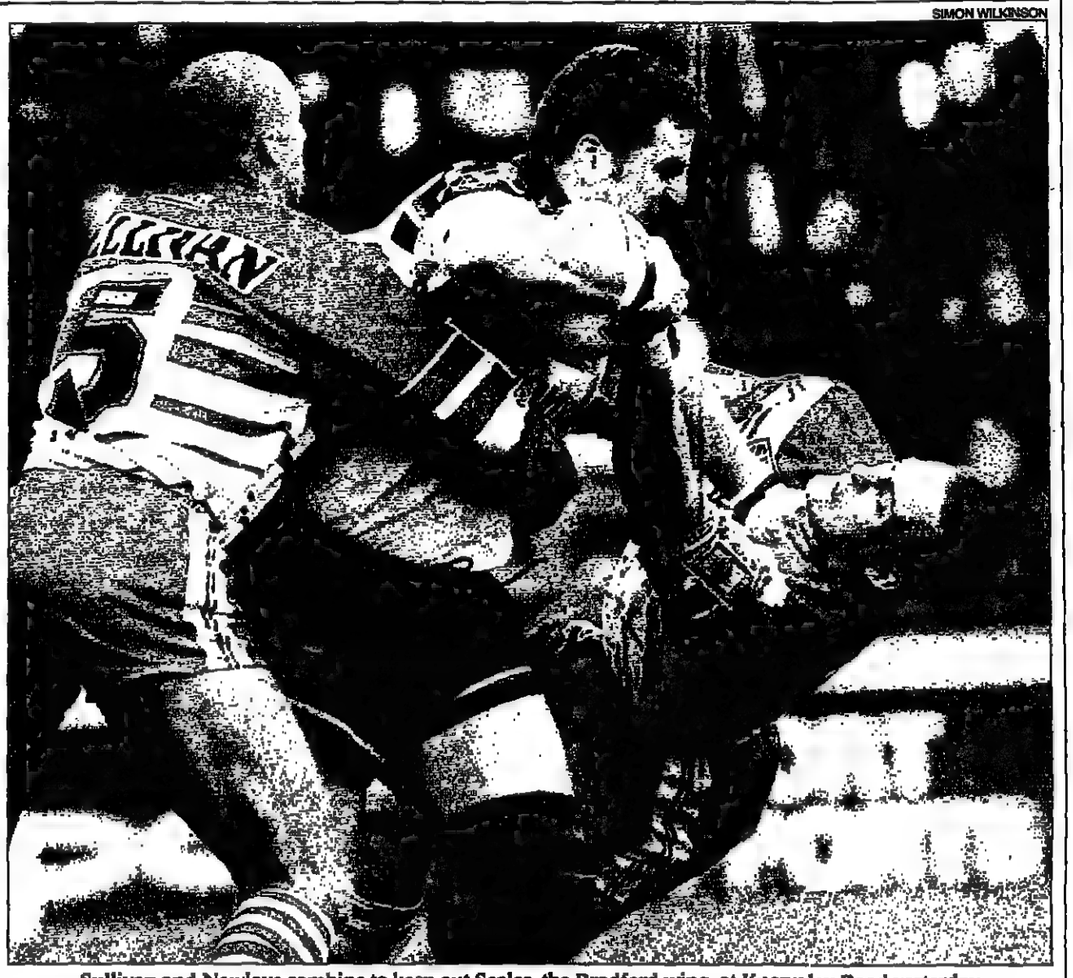
When they managed it in the first half, Bradford were overrun. St Helens were coasting after ten minutes. Loughlin and McNamara made a hash of Goulding's high kick and Arnold, 19 today, scored his tenth try in four matches.

Perelini was involved in the next score, by Gibbs, then, in reply to Calland's first try, the Samoan prop, whose speed is as impressive as his power, covered 65 metres in eluding the final hapless challenge of Cook, the Bradford full back.

Scales squeezed in at the corner, but making up a deficit of 16 points at the break, after Newlove had scored from Hunte's acrobatic pass, looked beyond Bradford.

They were a side transformed, though, against one that felt the job complete. Hunte's vulnerability in defence was exploited by Bradford's kick-and-chase game. If just one of the later opportunities had been converted, St Helens might have been overhauled. Instead, they nervously held out, but Bradford will be far from discouraged.

SCORERS: St Helens: Tries: Arnold, Gibbs, Perelini, Newlove. Goals: Goulding (5). Bradford: Tries: Calland (3), Scales. Goals: McNamara (2).
ST HELENS: A Hunte; D Arnold, A Gibbs, P Newlove, A Sullivan; K Hammond, R Goulding; A Perelini, K Cunningham, A Leathem, C Joynt, D McVey, G Morley. Subs used: V Matautia, I Pickavance, T Martyn.
BRADFORD BULLS: P Cook; G Christie, M Calland, P Loughlin, J Scales; G Bradley, R Paul; B McDermott, J Lowes, A Ireland, S Nickle, B Dwyer, S McNamara. Subs used: P Modley, C Hassan, J Donohue, S Knox.
Referee: R Smith.



SIMON WILKINSON

Sullivan and Newlove combine to keep out Scales, the Bradford wing, at Knowsley Road yesterday

Leeds acquiring that losing habit

Oldham Bears	25
Leeds	16

By Christopher Irvine

DEAN BELL and Howard Wilkinson can slap consoling arms round one another as comrades in a common struggle, in a city in sporting torment.

Wilkinson said after Leeds United's latest defeat at Chelsea that, if he shouted "heads", the coin was guaranteed to come down "tails". On the end of a wrong refereeing decision, which hastened a fourth successive Super League defeat at Watersheddings on Saturday night, Bell, the Leeds coach, knew precisely what his football counterpart meant.

A fightback by Leeds, from 17-0 down to within a point of Oldham, came to a halt with the sin-binning of Gibbons. The full back, perfectly legally, stripped possession from Crompton, the Oldham scrum half, as he dived for the try line. John Connolly, the Wigan official, deemed it a professional foul, forgetting the new rule allowing players to steal the ball in one-on-one tackles. It was an unfortunate decision from which Leeds, reduced to 12 players for ten of the remaining 15 minutes, never recovered. Maloney landed the resulting penalty and converted Crompton's second try for what, overall, was a thoroughly merited victory by Oldham in spite of their good fortune.

Bell, who has acquired Wilkinson's hang-dog expression, was more at a loss to explain his side's latest acquiescence. He offered apologies rather than excuses. "I can only tell the fans I'm working hard to put it right," he said, "but how much worse can it get? Not much more I hope."

Few could have foreseen Leeds and Halifax sharing bottom place with Workington, or that Oldham, after their hiding by Wigan on the opening weekend, would show the character that they have to go three matches unbeaten. Leeds would give a lot right now for the same determination.

Excellent support play put Atcheson, Patmore and Crompton through gaps in a hopelessly ragged Leeds defence in a whirlwind start. Half an hour passed before a muscular charge by McDermott caused the Leeds white flag to be put away. It prompted a try by Fallon, and Iro added two more, either side of the break.

Further chances went astray as Oldham put more backbone into their defence and Crompton, for a second time, had his decisive try, against the now depleted Leeds ranks, validated by video. For Leeds' sake, it was a pity that the television official cannot overrule a referee's mistake.

SCORERS: Oldham: Tries: Crompton (3), Atcheson. Patmore. Goals: Maloney (4). Dropped goal: Crompton. Leeds: Tries: Iro (2), Fallon. Goals: Holroyd (2).
OLDHAM BEARS: P Atcheson; A Leuluai, A Patmore, D Abram, A Bell; F Maloney, M Crompton; I Gildart, J Clarke, J Temu, G Lord, M Munro, H Hill. Subs used: P Topping, J Farrell, D Bradbury, T Nuttall.
LEEDS: A Gibbons; J Fallon, K Iro, P Hassan, D Gledhill; F Cummins, G Holroyd; H Howard, M Shaw, N Fozzard, G Mann, A Morley, G Mercer. Subs used: B McDermott, M Golden, M Schultz.
Referee: J Connolly.

Paris rule their roost

PARIS Saint-Germain are turning the Charlety Stadium, the new side's home on the southeastern outskirts of the French capital, into something of a fortress. Sheffield Eagles were beaten there in the opening Super League game. Oldham were held to a draw and Workington were beaten 34-12 on Saturday.

Pierre Chamorin, the Paris captain and centre, was Workington's tormentor with three tries. The Cumbrian side, one of three teams still without a win, led when Wallace scored the opening try, but, they were eventually overrun by a pacey Paris team before a partisan crowd of 6,534.

Pascal Bowmati, the wing, maintained his sequence of tries in three matches. Others were contributed by his fellow back, Regis Pastre-Courtine, and Greg Kacala, the Polish prop forward. Patrick Torreilles landed five goals to take his tally in four matches to 15. Paul Burns claimed a consolation try for the well-beaten visitors.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Cyphers unravel route to final

WITH or without Andy Thomson, Cyphers, a relatively small club based in Beckenham, continues to set new standards in the English Indoor Bowling Association national fours championship (David Rhys Jones writes). Yesterday, at Milton Mowbray, Paul Butcher, Terry Heppell, Martyn Sekjer and Gary Smith powered their way into the final, defeating a useful-looking North Walsham quartet 20-6, and they are hoping to win the title for a record seventh time today.

Heppell, Sekjer and Smith were all involved in the club's previous successes, and, although this is Butcher's first appearance in the team, he is a specialist lead in England's indoor side, and the National Players' Association champion.

In the final today, Cyphers meet Derek Dowson's Great Aycliffe quartet, who pulled off a great escape to pip Wey Valley, skipped by John Sussex. The Durham side stole the match with a dramatic double on the 21st end.

Sampson mars win

RUGBY UNION: England's 36-13 victory over Scotland in the colts international at Coventry on Saturday was marred by the dismissal of Paul Sampson (David Hands writes). The Otley full back, who trained with the senior England squad earlier this year, was sent off for punching during the second half, but nevertheless has been selected for the game with France in Chester this coming Saturday.

Few spectators saw the offence that was punished by the Italian referee, but England are optimistic that the dismissal will be judged sufficient. Sampson scored one of England's five tries and added 11 points with his boot. One change has been made for the match against France, Matt Perry, of Bath, replacing Josh Lewsey, of Wasps, at stand-off half.

Sampras returns to top

TENNIS: Pete Sampras, right, of the United States, became the world No 1 yesterday thanks to a hard-fought 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 victory over Michael Chang in the final of the Hong Kong Open. He overhauled Thomas Muster, of Austria, to return to the top of the rankings, despite Muster's 7-1, 6-4 win over Andrea Gaudenzi, of Italy, in the Estoril Open in Portugal.

Thomas's grand finish

ATHLETICS: Iwan Thomas set a Welsh 400 metres record yesterday. Thomas's 44.66sec for victory at the IAAF grand prix II meeting in Johannesburg ranks him behind only David Grindley, the British record-holder with 44.47sec, Derek Redmond and Roger Black among British athletes. Colin Jackson won the 110 metres hurdles and Darren Braithwaite the 100 metres.

Lewes upwardly mobile

HOCKEY: Bromley and Lewes secured national league status for next season in the inter-league event at Milton Keynes. Bromley, a founder member of the national league, defeated Oxford Hawks 2-1, while the ambitious Lewes club took a significant step up the ladder after a 3-3 draw with Ipswich. In the other matches, Weston-super-Mare beat Harborne 2-1 and Warrington drew 1-1 with Hampstead.

Vines through in style

SAILING: Ben Vines, the 1994 BT/RYA national match-racing champion, won the first of six regional qualifying heats for the 1996 final at Royal Torbay Yacht Club yesterday. Vines, 22, from Southampton, defeated Martin Payne in the best-of-three final after gaining four wins out of five in the round-robin heats. Payne, and Steve Tylecot, in third place, also qualified for the final, in October.

Pierce secures final say

TENNIS: Mary Pierce, right, the No 7 seed, from France, and Irina Spirlea, the No 8 seed, from Romania, were surprise finalists at the Bausch and Lomb championships at Amelia Island, Florida. Pierce brushed aside Mary Joe Fernandez 6-2, 6-4 and Spirlea upset Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, of Spain, the No 2 seed, 6-1, 7-5 in the other semi-final.

England stage fightback

LACROSSE: England, trailing 3-2 at half-time, hit back to beat Scotland 11-3 in the women's home international at Edinburgh on Saturday. England were stunned when Fiona Reid put Scotland in front after only 22 seconds, but they came to life after the break, including scoring five goals in four minutes, and must now beat Wales at High Wycombe on Saturday to retain the triple crown.

England put championship at risk

David Hands considers the implications of the Rugby Football Union's isolation

Just when it would appear to need friends most, the Rugby Football Union (RFU) withdrew over the weekend from discussions between the four home unions over television rights to the five nations' championship, due for renewal next year. By doing so, it has created a rift with Scotland, Ireland and Wales to match that which already exists between the RFU and its leading clubs.

Talks resumed in a Dublin hotel yesterday, but there have been some suggestions that England's place in the 1997-98 championship is at risk. Yet the RFU decision to go it alone comes precisely when it is uncertain whether it can keep its best clubs and players, significantly weakening its bargaining position.

The RFU believes that, by negotiating individually with the television companies, it can achieve a better deal for English rugby. But its commercial advisers have also said that, by doing so, it can achieve a bigger cake with significantly greater slices for each of the home unions than at present.

This argument was rehearsed in 1994, when the present television contract was agreed. The RFU says that England's audience is so much greater than elsewhere that it deserves a larger part of television money from the agreement to be ratified next year.

Two years ago English hopes — their opposite numbers might say greed — were swayed by a deal with Sky Sports. Each home union took 25 per cent of the £27 million agreed with the BBC but England had the lion's share of an additional £7 million contributed by Sky.

Now the RFU has been led to believe that, not only is it the five nations' championship that lures the television companies but, above anyone else, it is England's part in that championship that attracts them. The potential fee has leapt from £27 million to £100 million and the on-going disagreement with its clubs has convinced the union that it must work independently.

"We don't want to hijack the five nations', we want to underpin it and support it," Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, said last night. "We are just trying to look after our own affairs." Nevertheless, were England, the 1996 champions, to be cast out of the five nations', it could mean the end of the championship.

The union has still to resolve its internal problems with top clubs and meetings are expected to resume early next week. The clubs have made public their planned schedule for next season, the significant difference from RFU proposals being the absence of any representative rugby below international level.

The clubs envisage a two-tier European competition, the premier one consisting of 20 clubs playing in four groups of five, home and away. Another 36 clubs would play in the secondary competition in four groups of nine.

"It's a club competition, not provincial, district or divisional," David Tyler, of Bristol, said. "We would be prepared, in the case of Ireland or Scotland, to accept a group of clubs playing as Belfast or Glasgow but it is designed for clubs, and the money would go back to the clubs."

Below that the clubs envisage a 12-team English Conference, playing each other once, rather than the RFU's ten-team first division playing home and away. The top six clubs in England and Wales would also be involved in an Anglo-Welsh Conference (AWC) first division, divided into two groups, while the bottom six clubs in each country would play in an AWC second division.

Horgan to rescue, page 30
Dawe's dash, page 30

Museeuw negotiates bumpy ride to victory

By Peter Bryan

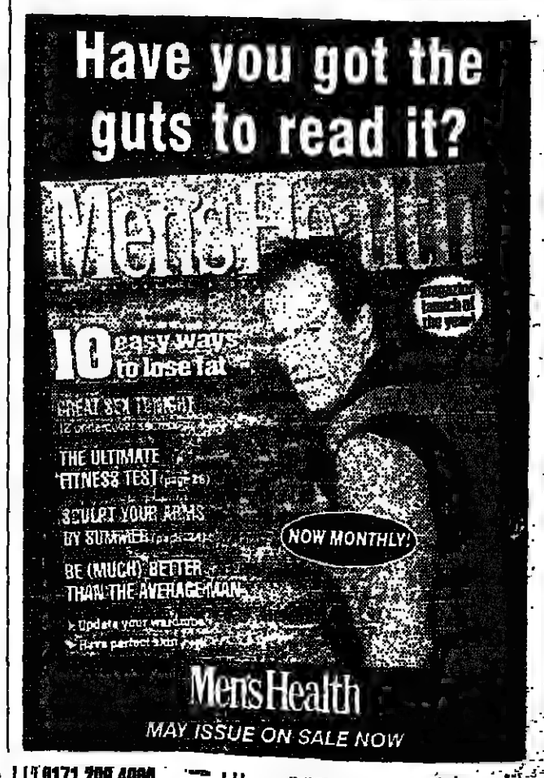
JOHAN MUSEEUW, of Belgium, the holder of the World Cup cycling road title, raised a gold plated cobblestone high above his head yesterday to celebrate victory in the Paris to Roubaix classic — the third round of the 1996 series — which will rank as one of the most memorable in the 100-year history of the event.

It was a race that lived up to its description as *l'enfer du nord* — the hell of the north. It was routed along unclassified roads and farm tracks which had 22 sections of cobblestones during its 263-kilometre distance, testing not only the endurance but also the balancing skills of the 200 starters.

Museeuw claimed a victory without precedent in recent years, marking a 1-2-3 for his Mapei team with his colleagues, Gianluca Bortolami, of Belgium, and Andrea Tafi, of Italy, free-wheeling over the finish line safe in the knowledge that they had gained more than a two-minute lead over their chasers during a breakaway that lasted 80 kilometres.

At one time, there had been four Mapei riders at the front, but Franco Ballerini, the winner last year, was plagued by three punctures and tailed off. He still managed to finish fifth, 2min 33sec behind Museeuw, who had not been without his own share of bad luck. Too punctures, the last with six kilometres to go, brought him to a halt, but his two companions slowed to allow him to rejoin.

Chris Boardman withdrew from the Circuit de la Sarthe before the start of the final day on Saturday because of problems with the ankle that he injured in a fall in the Paris to Camembert race. Boardman is expected to race in the Fleche Wallonne and Liege-Bastogne-Liege classics next week.



World No 1 knows first green jacket is his for the taking as final round gets under way at Augusta

Norman sets out on long march to victory

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN AUGUSTA

GREG NORMAN set out for the fourth round of the sixtieth Masters knowing that the green jacket that has eluded him in his 15 previous campaigns was his to lose at this sixteenth attempt.

Norman has been in stunning form here at Augusta National all week, widening his lead, two strokes at a time, from the moment he began with a record-equalling 63 until he was six strokes clear of Faldo, his nearest challenger, after three rounds. His lead at that point was the third largest in Masters history, behind Ray Floyd's eight strokes in 1976 and Severiano Ballesteros's seven in 1980. There was only one winner of a major championship within ten strokes.

Everything about Norman's game looked impressive as he became the first golfer in history to record five successive rounds in the 60s — his last three in 1995 and his first two this year. His drives were long and straight. He was playing within himself. He reached more than three-quarters of the greens in the regulation number of strokes. At 13 under par, Norman was within striking distance of the Masters' tournament record of 271, 17 under par, shared by Jack Nicklaus in 1965 and Floyd in 1976.

While others have struggled on Augusta's fast and furious putting surfaces Norman has had few problems. Though he three-putted the 3rd and 4th holes in his third round, of more significance is the fact that, over the last nine holes, he sank six putts of five feet or more.

Norman has been displaying some mannerisms that have not been seen before. One is to shake his left arm as if to loosen it just before he places it on his putter. Having done so, he appears to hold his putter as softly as if he is cradling a tiny, injured bird.

"On some putts, I hold my putter so softly I doubt I would even leave any finger prints on the grip," Norman said. He grips and regrips his club time after time, too, which is an obvious sign of nervousness.

"I don't think it has to be cast in stone that I have to win the Masters," Norman had said on the eve of the tournament. "We all would like to have things we've never had. I'd like to have more major championships. You just have to chase that elusive rainbow and that pot of gold at the end of it.

"If you get it one day, you feel a great sense of satisfaction. I am going to go to the 1st tee as relaxed and comfortable as I have been since the first day. I am going to enjoy every step I take."

Faldo was Norman's closest challenger but the man who was a byword for steadiness in the late 1980s and early 1990s, when he won five major championships, has lately become prone to one horrible hole. On Saturday, it was that six on the par-four 3rd hole, and it came at just the moment when he would have wanted to start putting on the pressure.

From that moment on, and particularly at the 12th, where Norman hit his first shot into Rae's Creek and might have lost two strokes of his lead, Faldo never seemed able to sustain a challenge. Only once did he have successive pars.

Faldo used to be able to produce one regulation figure after another, interspersed with a few birdies, but he had a real up and down round on Saturday — six pars, six birdies, five bogeys and one double bogey.

For Faldo to overtake Norman in the final round, he had to get a couple of birdies early on and hope that Norman would drop at least one stroke as well. "I've got to play my own game," Faldo said before setting out. "I'm a long way back. But, you know, anything is possible. It's all to gain and nothing to lose."

Phil Mickelson had as good a chance as Faldo. The young left-hander has a game that is suited to attacking golf, but for him to make up seven strokes was an awfully tall order. "Anything is possible and I don't want to rule out the improbable," Mickelson conceded. "It will take a 64 from me to do it.

"But, when Greg makes a mistake, he seems to recover immediately. Look at what he did after the 12th [in his third round]. He promptly birdied the 13th."

When he was at his best, Floyd had a stare that was intimidating to his rivals and made him seem oblivious to anything going on around him that he did not want to notice. He had that stare on his face for the whole of the last round of the 1986 US Open, which he won. Norman has had much the same sort of look in his eyes all week.

The *Augusta Chronicle* thought to telephone two local psychics to get a view from the paranormal about someone whose golf is far from normal. "Greg Norman is going to win this tournament," Madame Belle, a practising psychic for 25 years, said. "I just feel it. I am not a golf fan. I hardly ever watch it, but I saw him on TV and there's just something about him that caught my eye."

The other psychic said much the same. She was given the names, birthdates and birthplaces of Norman, Faldo, Mickelson, Lee Janzen and David Frost. "Of those five, none has so strong an aura as Greg," she reported. "I looked through his spirit and he seems very determined.

"He has a great aura. He has a great field of energy to pull him through in anything he tries to do. His self-confidence and energy are so high right now. The energy level range is zero to ten. Well, he's almost at that ten right now."

Norman once said that, when he turned 40, he still expected to play good golf for a good many years. He is 41 now, was the player of the year in the United States in 1995 and is considered to be the best player in the world by his peers. He is also ranked as such. He has won only two major titles — the Opens of 1986 and 1993 — but will never have so good a chance of adding to that total as he had yesterday, on another warm, sunny afternoon in Augusta.

Norman was entering unfamiliar territory in the Masters yesterday. His six-stroke lead was the third largest recorded with 18 holes to play. Photograph: Gary Hershorn

SCORES AFTER THREE ROUNDS

United States unless stated, par 72

203: G Norman (Aus) 63, 69, 71

209: N Faldo (GB) 69, 67, 73

210: P Mickelson 65, 73, 72.

212: D Waldorf 72, 71, 69, S McCarron 70, 70, 72; D Frost (SA) 70, 68, 74

213: J Huston 71, 71, 71, S Hoch 67, 73, 73.

214: D Duval 73, 72, 69; C Pavin 75, 66, 73; V Singh (Fiji) 69, 71, 74, L Janzen 68, 71, 75.

214: F Nobilo (NZ) 71, 71, 72, I Woosnam (GB) 72, 69, 73, E Els (SA) 71, 71, 72; B Tway 67, 72, 75

216: M Calcavecchia 71, 73, 71

216: N Price (Zim) 71, 75, 70; J Daly 71, 74, 71, C Stadler 73, 72, 71; J Maggert 71, 73, 72, L Roberts 71, 73, 72

217: F Couples 78, 68, 71; B Langer (Ger) 75, 70, 72; T Lehman 75, 70, 72; D Love 72, 71, 74

218: B Faxon 69, 77, 72; J Haas 70, 73, 75; M O'Meara 72, 71, 75

219: J Nicklaus 70, 73, 76, F Funk 71, 72, 76

220: S Lowery 71, 74, 75, P Azinger 70, 74, 76

221: C Montgomerie (GB) 72, 74, 75; J Leonard 72, 74, 75, S Simpson 69, 76, 76, R Floyd 70, 74, 77, B Estes 71, 71, 79.

222: H Irwin 74, 71, 77, A Cejka (Ger) 73, 71, 78

223: J Gallagher Jr 70, 76, 77, S Ballesteros (Sp) 75, 73, 77, L Mize 75, 71, 77, J Furyk 75, 70, 78

Missed cut

147: T Watson 75, 72; F Zoeller 74, 73, J Sluman 74, 73, T Tryba 72, 75, T Aaron 71, 76; D Gilford (GB) 69, 78 **148:** M Brooks 72, 76, H Sutton 72, 76, M Czaki (Japan) 71, 77, C Strange 71, 77, W Glasson 71, 77 **149:** S Sindelar 80, 69, A Lyle (GB) 75, 74, G Player (SA) 73, 76; M Campbell (NZ) 73, 76 **150:** N Lancaster 76, 74, * T Woods 75, 75, P Stewart 74, 76; A Palmer 74, 76 **151:** S Torrance (GB) 80, 71, B Crenshaw 77, 74, S Higuchi (Japan) 76, 75, E Dougherty 76, 75, K Triplett 76, 75 **152:** T Herron 76, 76, K Perry 75, 77, T Hale 75, 77, G Brewer 75, 77, P Stankowski 74, 78 **153:** W Austin 79, 74, D Edwards 79, 74, C Rocca (It) 78, 75, B Bryant 78, 75, M Poxon (GB) 74, 79 **154:** B Mayfair 77, 77 **155:** S Elkington (Aus) 76, 79, B Henninger 76, 79, * G Sherry (GB) 75, 77, D A Weibring 74, 81 **157:** I Baker-Finch (Aus) 78, 79, P Goydos 74, 83 **158:** * C Wollmann 79, 79 **160:** * B Marucci 79, 81, * J Courville Jr 78, 82, C Coody 82, 78, M McCumber 78, 82 **161:** B Casper 75, 86 **169:** D Ford 81, 88

* denotes amateur

Despairing Montgomerie fails to get the measure of Augusta

ANDREW LONGMORE

At the Masters

It is such a simple act, yet so brilliantly catchy, so utterly timeless and stunningly normal, not even the best paid marketing executive — and there are a few to choose from wandering the weed-free lawns of the Augusta National golf course — could come close to dreaming it up. What could be more mundane than helping someone to put on their jacket? When the jacket happens to be a rather daunting shade of green and the giver and receiver happen to be the old and new Masters champions.

At the Masters, tradition can too often be mistaken for petty officialdom. But the donning of the green jacket is in the best line of sporting symbolism, the handing on not just of a title but a heritage which has nothing to do with the litany of rules and regulations (no cameras, no autographs, no hard-backed seats, no non-official Masters cups, no running, no ...) which make the Masters the most policed event in the sporting calendar. Nor with the mere matter of the $400,000 (about £260,000) first prize, but everything to do with the recognition of achievement, one champion by another.

The significant thing about the ceremony yesterday, which was actually executed twice, once for television, once for real — this is America, after all — was that momentary communion of champions. Ben Crenshaw, ever mindful of his duty, stayed on in Augusta after missing the cut on Friday, spending his last days as defending champion kicking his heels and waiting to perform that one final act which only lasted a matter of seconds. But it is an exclusive moment, only truly understood by the rare men who have known what it means to emerge victorious from the four-day joust with the fickle winds and marble greens of Augusta.

If any British player was destined to send their chest measurement off to the Hamilton Tailoring Company of Cincinnati, where the jackets are made from cloth specially chosen by the club, most predicted it would be Colin Montgomerie who would have spent the winter on carrot juice. In the days leading up to the sixtieth Masters, the Scot seemed certain to be the most potent challenger from across the Atlantic, the most likely successor to the role-call of European winners which has included Nick Faldo, Severiano Ballesteros, Sandy Lyle, Ian Woosnam and José-Maria Olazábal, and which has driven the Americans to distraction.

Yet to see Montgomerie after his third round on Saturday was to see a man suffering from a chronic case of incomprehension, the most dreaded disease known to a golfer. His round had included an eight and a two at successive holes, three over and one under, in the space of about 20 minutes. "This is the most frustrating place I have ever played," he said, which is something, given that Montgomerie has a degree in the subject of frustration. "I can't understand this place. I am playing perfect golf and yet doing nothing. What am I supposed to do? How am I supposed to play this place?" The press had no idea either.

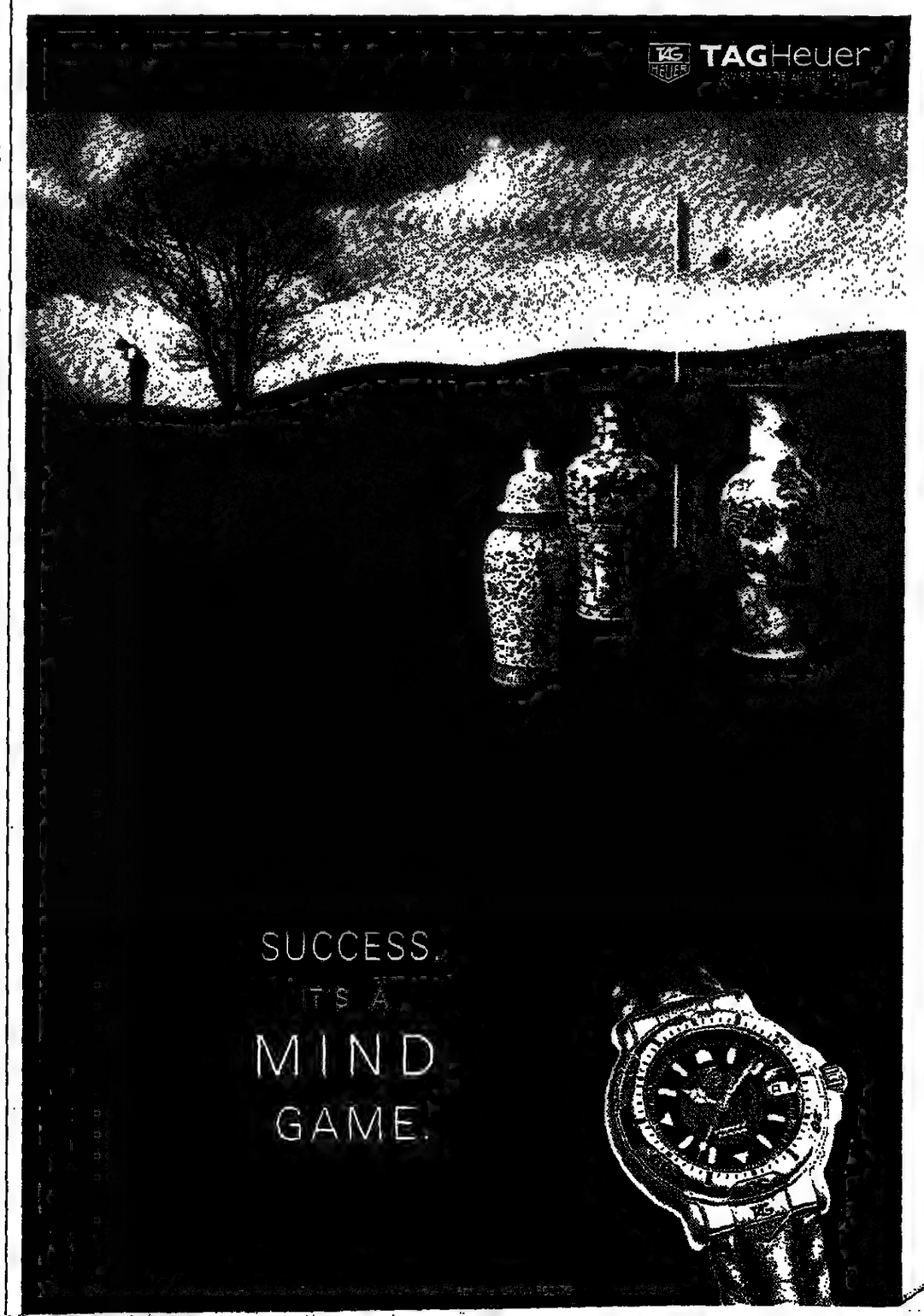
On the 15th, one of the most public spots on the course, Montgomerie endured an embarrassment which is usually the preserve of club hackers. It is worth recording, if only to give hope to every golfer on the planet. For four strokes, Montgomerie did everything by the book, laying up short of the creek, pitching a little long, but safely, and dropping his first putt to within a foot of the hole. That was the easy part. His second putt rolled eight feet past the hole, the return missed as well and, from a standard par five, the Scot was plodding away with an eight.

His temper was not helped on the next hole, when his tee shot rolled to within three feet of the hole and only began to roll gently away from it when Montgomerie was walking towards the green. He made the putt anyway, but his relationship with Augusta could take some mending over the next few years, for all the promising start to his final round yesterday.

To prick the world No 2's ego further, Faldo's old grinding, relentless, spirit has surfaced once more, just as he had predicted it would. This is what brought Faldo to America, the adrenalin rush of being in contention on the last day of a major, and his second round of 67, which lifted him within sight of Norman, was a gem, not flawless by any means, but tough with a hint of sparkle amid the stone. "It's nice to be back in the hunt," he had said afterwards.

He has been back to his prickly best in the interview room, too, giving short answers to long questions and suggesting to one journalist, who had innocently asked about the length of time he took to hit a pitch to the 12th on the third day, that he should try to play the shot sometime. "It was a difficult lie, on the edge of the cut grass, and I had to hit it from an uphill lie onto a green which sloped down. And it was the Saturday of the Masters. Does that answer your question?" he snapped before heading for the practice range with his hawk-eyed coach, David Leadbetter.

"It's just a matter of confidence," Leadbetter said. "He's hitting the ball really well but when you haven't been in contention for a major for a while, you lose confidence." Faldo has rediscovered the thrill of the chase and has clearly enjoyed every minute of it, green jacket or no green



Defeat in basement dogfight takes Rangers to the brink of relegation

Atkinson grasps direct route to safety

Coventry City 1
Queens Park Rangers .. 0

By Oliver Holt

IN THE dark place where fear of the drop taps against tired brains like a steady drip, the pain of the slow torture is getting worse. Ron Atkinson, the Coventry City manager, ran screaming from the chamber on Saturday, clutching a precious win and wrestling with the knowledge that he had been ready to sell his footballing soul for three points. Behind him, sighing in the relegation groves, he left Ray Wilkins and a Queens Park Rangers team reduced to dead men walking.

When the match was over, players from both teams fell to their knees either in silent thanks or angry imprecation. Others raised their arms to the skies. One man, Rufus Brevett, the Rangers left back, was so consumed by the agony of it all that he had to be restrained after the final whistle from pursuing an opponent whom he had marked out as a scapegoat for the defeat.

It was hard to find nobility in the struggle. This was primitive and savage, a match of basic instincts that gnawed at the nerves. "I'm beginning to think I might be Hannibal Lecter." Bryan Richardson, the Coventry chairman, said before the game. "I've done more than chew off my finger nails. I'm right up to my elbows now."

Coventry have been here before, of course. Eight times in their improbable 29-year stay in the top division, they have secured survival on the last day of the season. Their supporters are hardened to it all, now, almost blasé, in fact. Atkinson is more susceptible to the tensions that the battle brings.

When Coventry played Liverpool last week, he cracked. For the first time in a managerial career distinguished by the fine football that his teams play, the skill and artistry that he infuses into their fabric, he threw his principles to the wind and told them to play the long ball. They won 1-0, with a goal from Whelan. "It is the first time I have told the players to thump it big and not to pass too often in their own half," he said.

It is ironic, too, because Atkinson has created a Coventry side that neutrals are excited by, a team built on players with flair such as Whelan, Jess, Salako, Strachan and Ndlovu. For once, people may not actually be willing Coventry down.

On Saturday, though, Atkinson went into the game with the same limited intentions. He left out Jess, his £2 million signing from Aberdeen, a player of style, guile and grace, and put his faith in Paul Williams, a strong runner whose first touch is not his strong point. Atkinson told Jess that he had to sacrifice a little quality for the struggle and Jess understood. He faced relegation in Scotland last season and Aberdeen left him out then, too.

Then, though, Atkinson was saved from himself. Rennie, a centre back replacement for the injured Busst, was withdrawn at half-time with an ankle injury. Williams moved back to defence, Jess came into midfield, the acres of space that had opened up in their back four every time that a hopeful ball was punted up there closed up, and Coventry were their old, footballing selves again.

The goal, when it came in the 69th minute, was a worthy winner, an oasis in the desert of desperation. Strachan, as busy as ever, slipped a pass down the line to Whelan, who drew two men to him before flicking the ball back to Strachan. His deep cross was nodded across goal by Dublin and Jess nipped in front of two defenders to head the ball past Sommer.

By then, Gallen had already missed Rangers' best chance of taking the lead when he escaped his marker but headed Sinclair's cross against the angle of post and crossbar. He compounded his miss by shooting high and wide in the dying minutes when a square ball would have set up Wilkins, the player-manager, who brought himself on for Hateley 12 minutes from the end.

In the eightieth minute of a match that had already produced five bookings, the tension got too much for Impey, the Rangers midfield player. He got involved in a niggly shoving match with Hall, who was to become the object of Brevett's vengeful desires, and ended it by kicking out at him. He was sent off.

Coventry may be safe now. They are still in the bottom three, but they have a game in hand over Manchester City, who are one point above them with Aston Villa and Liverpool to play. For Rangers, who must beat West Ham United at home and Nottingham Forest away to have any chance, it looks as though the struggle is over and only the preserving of their dignity and honour remains.

They were undone by their poor finishing on Saturday and by the ineffectiveness of Hateley in attack. He looked out of his depth, even against a defence as woeful as Coventry's, a sad symbol of Wilkins's lack of success in the transfer market. If there was consolation for Rangers, it was in their manager's continued stoicism, his humour, and his confidence that success will come next season in the face of what looks increasingly like failure this year.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — A Pickering, L Dash, D Rennie (sub: E Jess, 45min), M Hall — G Strachan, K Richardson, P Williams, P Ndlovu — N Whelan, D Dublin.
QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-3-3): J Sommer — D Bardsley, A McDonald, S Yates, R Brevett — A Impey, I Holloway, S Barker — T Sinclair, K Gallen, M Hateley (sub: R Wilkins, 78).
Referee: K Cooper (Pontypridd).

Strachan, the veteran Coventry midfield player, shows no lack of determination as he slides in to tackle Impey. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Derby denied 29
Stevenage falter 29

City's unsettled strike force has uphill task

Manchester City 1
Sheffield Wednesday 0

By Peter Ball

IT IS hard to be a Manchester City supporter, part two. "How did United get on?" one demanded after City's tense, scrambling victory on Saturday. Told that United had lost, instead of the news making his day, he could only symbolically bang his head against the wall in despair at the thought of what Southampton's victory could mean for his own team.

There had been little enough for him to celebrate anyway. Only Uwe Rösler's goal stilled the growing hum of discontent as City froze, misplaced pass following misplaced pass.

A win, though, is a win, except that, where City are concerned, even that truism has to be qualified. City's three points were invaluable — but not that invaluable, a piece of logic, or illogic, that City followers are all too familiar with. It will be very hard now for Queens Park Rangers and Bolton Wanderers to escape the drop; but the three points that Coventry City and Southampton also gained on Saturday leaves them competing with City to avoid the third relegation spot.

City are one place above the relegation zone with a point advantage over Coventry, and level on 34 points with Southampton, but Coventry and Southampton have a game in hand, albeit both away, and, critically, City have the worst goal difference. Their position bodes ill, and so did their performance on Saturday.

For a team in trouble, a home game against Sheffield Wednesday should be the stuff of dreams — a team with nothing to play for, little commitment and not much pace — but City's nerves were not so much exposed as red raw.

With Kinkladze manmarked by Atherton, only Lomas showed the urgency and conviction necessary to exploit Wednesday's lack of real desire. Indeed, if Hirst had looked like his old self, instead of a lumbering copy, Wednesday could have turned that hum of discontent into an angry rebellion before the interval. As it was, the boos at half-time were scattered.

The murmurs were spreading again by the time that Quinn and Phillips appeared. Rösler, so unhappy at being left out a week ago, and Kavelashvili had their moments, but there was a lack of genuine threat. Yet that has been the problem all season, as Ball pointed out to Quinn before the game.

Phillips took the throw-in for his first touch, threw it to Quinn who held off Newsome, turned and laid it across goal for Rösler to explode in front of his defender and crash it past Pressman, a goal completely out of context with the previous stumbling efforts. An inspired substitution? "Nah," Ball said, "a fluke."

Quinn, who had been left out for Kavelashvili, did not claim that it was inspired either, but he made his point more subtly than Rösler had done the previous week when he had come on and promptly scored, and gestured across to his watching manager.

"I'm a bit long in the tooth to do what Uwe did," Quinn said, "but it's a funny thing that the boss told me that he was leaving me out because Uwe and I weren't quite hitting it off as a pair, that we had had plenty of opportunities all season and it hadn't worked. Yet with my first touch, I set up the winner for Uwe."

Wednesday should have equalised when Pembridge broke clear with Hirst inside him to advance on Immel. A square pass and the trap-door would have opened for City, but Pembridge went for glory and City survived for another week.

With Aston Villa and Liverpool as their last two games, logic suggests that they will not for much longer, but logic has no place at Maine Road — so, City being City, they will probably beat Liverpool on the last day of the season to survive.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): E Immel — I Brightwell, K Symons, K Curle, M Frontzeck (sub: M Phillips, 83min) — S Lomas, N Clough, G Kinkladze, M Brown — M Kavelashvili (sub: N Quinn, 63), U Rösler.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-5-1): K Pressman — S Nicol (sub: C Waddle, 66), J Newsome, D Walker, L Briscoe — G Whittingham, M Degryse (sub: O Danielsson, 71), P Atherton, M Pembridge (sub: J Sheridan, 79), R Bright — D Hirst.
Referee: R Hart.

For your company golf day...
...it's the business

THE TIMES Mees Pierson CORPORATE GOLF CHALLENGE

The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge is open to any company, organisation, partnership, association or body (not golf society) based in the British Isles, which holds a business or company golf day in which 12 or more amateur players take part.

How to participate — Company Registration

1. All you have to do to take part in the Challenge is register your golf day using the form (right) - then on the day itself, submit the results.
2. Simply send all the completed form, together with the registration fee of £150 plus VAT as soon as possible, prior to your golf day and no later than 15th September 1996.*
3. The top four scoring golfers in your golf day's Individual Stableford competition - including up to three guests (your option) - will become eligible to represent your company (as a team) at one of the twelve regional finals in October this year.
4. Your team of four will, if their aggregate Stableford score is among the top 25 aggregate scores in your region, qualify for a regional final.
5. The winning company from each of the twelve regional finals will compete in the national final at Hyatt La Manga Club Resort in Spain in November. To be filmed for a Sky TV broadcast.

* Golf days registered after 15th September or played after 27th September will be entered for the 1997 Challenge.

Company name
Company address
Post Code
Telephone No
Facsimile
E-mail
*Name of company representative to whom all correspondence will be sent
Will be holding a golf day at ... Golf Club
Address
County
on ... (date) and will be attended by approximately ... players
* Delete as appropriate

Benefits of Entry

- Your golf day featured in The Times 'forthcoming golf days' fixture list.
- Your golf day results featured in The Times 'golf day results' column.
- A set of four personalised wood trophies for your golf day winners.
- Copies of The Times delivered to the golf club on the morning of your golf day.
- Complimentary copies of the event newsletter on your golf day.
- A golf day management software program for use on your golf day.
- Complimentary copy of the Official event magazine -The Business Golfer.
- A chance for your company golf day winners to qualify as a team to play in a Regional Final.
- The opportunity, should they win the Regional Final, to play in the National Final, to be held in November 1996, at The Hyatt La Manga Club in Spain and filmed for a Sky TV broadcast.
- The winners of the National Final will be invited to participate in the World Corporate Golf Challenge.
- Other promotional opportunities for the golf day organiser.

2 Trophy Requirements
The trophies for your four qualifiers will be sent to you for presentation on your golf day. Unless you state otherwise, your company name, as spelt out in section 1 above, will be inserted, as will the date and name of the golf club. If you require an abbreviation of your company name or indeed another name altogether please print here

3
I accept the terms and conditions for company registration and enclose a cheque for £176.25 inc VAT made payable to The Times MeesPierson G.G.C. Please send my completed form to The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge PO Box 4 Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 3DL. A VAT invoice will be sent with acknowledgement.

Signed ... Date

Rules and Regulations

The competition is approved by the R&A for payment of expenses "Rule 1-9 Ex. 7 Amateur"
A full set of rules and conditions will be sent with acknowledgement of receipt of the registration form, or you may obtain a copy or further information by contacting the Challenge organisers on:

0171 436 3415 or
0141 221 2225 (Scotland)
or by fax to 0171 436 2581

TITLE SPONSOR
Mees Pierson
MERCHANT BANKERS SINCE 1720

ASSOCIATE SPONSORS
CITROËN
WATERFORD CRYSTAL
Marriott HOTELS RESORTS SUITES

OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS
Titleist
Barwell
Newstrack
FIBERNET
GOLF WORLD

Todd left to draw logical conclusion

West Ham United 1
Bolton Wanderers 0

By Keith Pike

FOR another 12 days, at least, Bolton Wanderers can dream on in the hope that the final credits have yet to roll in their version of *The Great Escape*. Perhaps their supporters forget that the hero of that film ended back in solitary, his motorbike wrapped up in barbed wire.

Simple mathematics suggest that all is not lost: victories in their last two games, at home to Southampton on April 27 and away to Arsenal eight days later, coupled with a series of unlikely results elsewhere, could indeed save them. Simple logic, however, says otherwise, and Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, is a logical man. "There is still a chance, but we need a miracle now," he said. Does he believe in them? "I just wish I could."

So, having escaped from the Endsleigh Insurance League first division via a dramatic play-off victory at Wembley, Bolton appear condemned to an immediate return. It would be stretching a point to say that there are three worse teams in the FA Carling Premiership than them, or even that they will be sadly missed, but despair will not be confined solely to Burnden Park. Bolton do, at least, try to play the right way and, in Curcic, Sellars and Stubbs, have three players whose talents deserve a better stage.

Their weaknesses, though, far outnumber their strengths, and explain not only why they lost this match at Upton Park, but also why they have been in the bottom three for nearly seven months. They cannot score regularly — Dicks, the West Ham left back, who was watched on Saturday by Terry Venables, the England coach, without either weakening or pressing his international claims, would be comfortably their leading marksman — and they possess the most porous defence in the Premiership. It is a recipe for relegation.

For half an hour against West Ham, the ingredients were mixed nicely. Of the seven chances that Bolton created in that time, two were denied by superb defending from the impressive Bilic, but the best was spooned over an open goal by Blake, whose return of one goal in 19 appearances since a £1.5 million transfer from Sheffield United makes him a candidate for expensive mistake of the season.

Then a lapse, a goal, and another defeat. Cottee was allowed a free run on to Williamson's cleverly weighted chip forward, and Ward, previously unemployed, was helpless as the shot beat him low to his left. Thereafter, as Bolton's determination gave way to desperation, it was West Ham who threatened most, Ward saving twice with his legs from Cottee.

"I could not have asked for more from my players," Todd said. "I don't know what we have to do wo win a game of football." The answer, depressingly enough, is probably "get relegated".

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L Miklosko — T Breacker, S Bilic, M Reeper, J Dicks — S Slater (sub: K Rowland, 44min), I Bishop, D Williamson, M Hughes (sub: J Moncur, 78) — A Cottee, I Dowie.
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-5-1): G Ward — G Bergsson, C Fairclough, S Coleman, J Phillips — J McGinlay, S Curcic, A Stubbs, S Sellars, A Thompson — N Blake (sub: F de Freitas, 57).
Referee: A Wilkie.

Old school ties serve Lancing well

Ivo Tennant sees some skilful football get its due reward in the Arthur Dunn Cup final

FOUR goals in the second half, all scored with dexterity, enabled Lancing Old Boys to win the Arthur Dunn Cup for the fifth time in 13 years. Their 4-1 victory over Old Brentwoods at Motspur Park owed much to the skill of Ian Brown-Peterside and the coaching of Ken Shearwood, a figure as distinctive on a football ground as the school's most famous former pupil and supporter, Sir Tim Rice.

Lancing knocked Old Brentwoods out of this competition, which is for public schools old boys, in each of the past two years. Only for the first 20 minutes was there any likelihood of a different result on this occasion. Sullivan, the Brentwood captain, gave them the lead with a deflected shot at a time when there was a distinct edginess about Lancing's game.

All that changed after half-time. Indeed, Brown-Peterside had already hit a post by the time he skipped nimbly past two defenders and struck the first of his two goals beyond Gilbert. His second, ten minutes later, came through a deft shot. Neat, considered passing is at the core of Lancing's game. That, and a defensive record of having conceded only 19 goals in 15 matches in the Arthurian League premier division. Brentwood, who are top of the lower league, the Arthurian first division, were restricted to just three further goal chances.

Lancing's third goal was driven into the narrowest of gaps between goalkeeper and post by Wyatt, who then provided the ideal pass for Alcock four minutes from the end. The cup, which dates from 1902, was presented to Mercer, the Lancing captain, by Jane Sawyer, Arthur Dunn's granddaughter. It is not, perhaps, such a glamorous final as its equivalent in the summer, The Cricketer Cup, but this game was well attended and sportingly and skilfully contested.

OLD BRENTWOODS (4-4-2): D Gilbert — J Davey, C Beale, S McMillan, C Rowe — M Shattock, P Sullivan, T Clements, B Tappin (sub: D Matheson, 45min) — J Cameron, B McMillan.
LANCING OLD BOYS (4-3-3): M Moulding — J Simpson, J Dwyer, S Kelsey, B Evans — A Cunningham, D Gurney, A Mercer — I Brown-Peterside, M Wyatt, P Alcock.
Referee: D Woolcott.

MARC ASPLAND

Old Brentwoods reflect on another net loss in the final

Delight of Dell devotees masks deficiencies of off-colour Premiership pace-setters

Southampton united by leaders' disparity

Southampton 3
Manchester United 1

By David Miller

HAPPINESS, for some, is not a cigar, it is the incineration of Manchester United. It would be difficult to measure the depths of satisfaction, the glee, the relief, of Southampton's consuming 3-1 victory over the FA Carling Premiership leaders. *United?* You must be joking.

Southampton have this season been made to look poor by the likes of Reading, Crewe Alexandra and Swindon Town, never mind serious opponents. Yet, having lost five of their previous seven matches, the small-town team dismissed Goliath with David-like aplomb.

Sport exercises a strange power over people. The radiancy at the finish on the faces of Southampton supporters was uncontained. Here, simultaneously, was the most desired, and, given the circumstances, the most unlikely result of the whole season. This single scoreline justified the cost of a season ticket.

Amid the celebration of a momentary triumph that makes escape from relegation a pulse-quickening possibility for Southampton, it was overlooked that Manchester United had given an abysmal performance. Only Schmeichel emerged with credit and even he made the error that presented Le Tissier with the third goal. Dis-United was the word.

Full results and league tables ....Page 28

Graham Poll, the referee, keeps a close watch as Cantona gets the better of Magilton during Southampton's 3-1 victory over Manchester United. Photograph: Ian Stewart

At half-time, Manchester changed from a grey kit, in which they have never won, to blue and white. It made no difference. "When we were told in the dressing-room," Dave Beasant, the Southampton goalkeeper, said, "we felt good, because we knew they were desperately looking for something to change their luck."

In their first defeat since the turn of the year, United were without shape or substance. Most conspicuously, Giggs, inaccurate beyond belief and endlessly squandering possession — including a moment before the second goal after 23 minutes, which all but sealed the outcome — endured from start to finish the "nightmare" to which Alex Ferguson referred afterwards. "We can't be proud of our defending, it was terrible," Ferguson said. "They got about us, stopped the flow." The trickle, he might have said.

Bruce was made to appear clumsy in central defence; Sharpe, at left back — until replaced by May early in the second half, when Irwin switched to left back and Gary Neville from central defence to right back — suffered continual embarrassment against the threat of Dodd, Magilton and the roaming Shipperley; Butt and Keane, in central midfield, were pedestrian.

In front of this disarray, Cantona walked around, aloof and with hands on hips, as if to say that he wished to be no part of such ineptitude. It was not an impressive captain's performance, especially when he gestured at colleagues with Gallic despair. Within half an hour, indeed, the whole team had begun snapping at each other like a squabbling bunch of stray dogs.

As for Cole, he ran about energetically, in his bent-legged, unathletic way, but got no change out of Benali and Monkou, who was arguably man of the match. The other contender was Shipperley — there is no front-runner in the League with a bigger heart. Afterwards, Dave Merrington revealed the profundity of his mismanagement this season, which has abetted Southampton's crisis. He had told Le Tissier, "who hasn't had a great season", to ignore everybody else and be a bit more selfish. That advice should ensure Southampton's relegation next season, if not this.

Le Tissier's selfishness, or rather his detachment from integrated teamwork, is one of the team's problems. Happily, it now did not matter because of the red-hot industry of Neilson, Dodd, Magilton, Venison and Heaney. Southampton found a team performance in the hour of greatest need, within which all the individual touches of Le Tissier were peripheral rather than central.

United had one early chance that might have directed the tide of the match their way. With nine minutes gone, Cantona linked with Cole, who struck a perfect through pass diagonally behind Southampton's rearguard. Butt timed his run to perfection as Southampton hesitated, but his viciously-struck shot rose above Beasant's crossbar. Within three minutes, Southampton were in front.

From Le Tissier's free kick on the left, an inswinger, United's defence failed to react and Monkou was able to meet the ball with a bludgeoning header five yards out. Schmeichel made a stupendous reflex save, but Monkou drove the rebound home.

Now, Southampton had a real grip on affairs. Dodd and Le Tissier went close before Shipperley, taking Neilson's low cross in his stride, hooked sharply inside the near post to heighten United's discomfort.

If the leaders were to save the match, something had to come now. There was nothing there. Le Tissier drove a venomous shot at Schmeichel and, two minutes before half-time, Schmeichel failed to hold a long, swerving cross from Shipperley as he lunged between his defenders. The ball fell at Le Tissier's feet and he calmly steered it home just inside the right-hand post of a now unprotected goal.

Scholes came out for the second half in place of Butt, yet, hard though he worked, he could not pull together United's frayed ends. For a quarter of an hour, Southampton continued to dominate and, although United made and missed three or four chances in the last half-hour, it was a performance that they will wish to banish from memory before they take on Leeds United at home on Wednesday.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D Beasant — A Neilson, F Benali, K Monkou, S Charlton — J Dodd, J Magilton, B Venison, N Heaney — M Le Tissier, N Shipperley.
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Schmeichel — D Irwin, S Bruce, G Neville, L Sharpe (sub: D May, 55min) — D Beckham, R Keane, N Butt (sub: P Scholes, 46), R Giggs — E Cantona, A Cole.
Referee: G Poll

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Manchester Utd	35	73	+29	WWWWL
2	Newcastle	34	70	+27	LLWLW
3	Liverpool	34	65	+35	WLWLW
4	Aston Villa	35	62	+19	LDWWL
5	Arsenal	34	57	+16	WLWWL
6	Tottenham	34	55	+10	WLWLD
7	Everton	35	54	+16	DLWWL
8	Blackburn	35	54	+12	WLLWW
9	Nottm Forest	34	53	-2	WLWWL
10	West Ham	35	49	-6	LWDLW
11	Chelsea	35	48	+3	LDLLW
12	Middlesbrough	36	43	-11	DWWDL
13	Leeds	34	42	-13	LWLLL
14	Wimbledon	35	41	-12	WWDWW
15	Sheffield Wed	35	38	-10	WLLWL
16	Southampton	35	34	-18	LLWLW
17	Manchester City	36	34	-26	LDLLW
18	Coventry	35	33	-20	LLWLW
19	QPR	36	30	-19	DWLWL
20	Bolton	36	29	-30	WDLWL

Weekly change: Up — Stayed the same — Down

Sad Leeds fail to strike right note

Chelsea 4
Leeds United 1

By Alyson Rudd

LEEDS United are spoilsports, the sort that bring a karaoke machine to a party and leave as soon as someone plugs it in. Against Chelsea on Saturday, they fielded three central defenders with no wing backs, which could have heralded a free-flowing, attacking, Ajax-style flourish to the end of their season, but did not.

Palmer, McAllister and Speed contested a congested spot just in front of the defence. Brolin still lacks full fitness and was, therefore, completely anonymous, except when he required the attention of the physiotherpaist. Kelly was so overworked that charity must have started a rescue fund.

"Life is not sweet at our place," Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, said. Bolton Wanderers might disagree — after all, Leeds will not be relegated — but, indeed, it is sour. The resignation of Leslie Silver, the Leeds chairman, simply added to the general doom and gloom. Once again, supporters called for Wilkinson to leave.

Fortunately for the stewards, only a handful really shouted for their manager's head and they were able, therefore, to escort them from the ground — on Glenn Hoddle's orders, it transpired. Of course, had 1,000 visiting supporters all chanted in unison for Wilkinson to be given the sack, they would have stayed to see out the game.

Wilkinson was calm, statesmanlike, frank, good-humoured — in short, a man who has already made the big decision, although whether that is to leave, stay or move upstairs remains to be seen.

Hoddle's future is also the subject of speculation. He is touted as a successor to Terry Venables as England coach and still has not signed an extension to his contract as manager of Chelsea. Hoddle says that he cannot bind himself to a club that does not have a clear boardroom structure. A meeting at Stamford Bridge this week should explain what the truce between Ken Bates and Matthew Harding actually means for Hoddle.

In the meantime, there is a limited amount of pleasure that can be gleaned from a victory over a team as glum and disorientated as Leeds and, really, the scoreline should have been more emphatic. Hughes notched the first Chelsea hat-trick in six years and Spencer scuttled through the Leeds defence before clinically beating the despondent Lukic. McAllister roused himself in the second half and slipped the ball under Kharine, and the final quarter of an hour was conducted at half-pace.

The contest, did, however, give Gullit the opportunity to thank his supporters for voting him the club's player of the season by indulging in sporadic artistry that was so smooth that it looked like a trick of the light. The real trick, however, was how Leeds found themselves at Wembley this season and not Chelsea.

CHELSEA (3-4-2-1): D Kharine — M Duberry, D Lee, A Myers — C Burley, N Spackman, D Wise, S Minto — R Gullit, J Spencer (sub: G Peacock, 70min) — M Hughes.
LEEDS UNITED (3-5-2): J Lukic — G Kelly, D Wetherall, J Pemberton (sub: L Radebe, 37) — A Gray, G McAllister, C Palmer, G Speed, I Harte — B Deane, T Brolin.
Referee: D Gallagher

Ekoku keeps Crazy Gang in top flight

Middlesbrough 1
Wimbledon 2

By Mark Hodkinson

RIPPLES of excitement and incredulity ebbed through Middlesbrough's packed Riverside Stadium. Supporters shook their heads in disbelief, some were almost out of their seats. The thrill, lamentably, was vicarious and supplied exclusively by those wise enough to bring along a radio.

The FA Carling Premiership had gone mad. Southampton were three to the good against Manchester United before half-time, Chelsea were walloping Leeds United, and Blackburn Rovers, those habitual away-day losers, had gone nap at Nottingham Forest.

Strange, indeed, but, in the face of such eccentricity, Middlesbrough and Wimbledon, the patron saints of stoicism, remained steadfast. A leaden show of frank but ineffectual endeavour was anticipated — and duly provided.

Even one of the men responsible for staging it was nonplussed. "I was bored with it; if I'm sitting there bored, the fans are going to be bored as well," Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, said. "The work-rate was there, it always is with us, but we were sluggish and gave the ball away all the time."

At least Wimbledon had a game plan and were spared the cacophony of groans and insults that the Middlesbrough players suffered every time that theirs went awry. Without the ball, Wimbledon surrendered most of the pitch, but the blue arc around Sullivan's goal was all but impenetrable. With the ball, they were fleet of foot and, in Ekoku and Holdsworth, they had the resolve that Middlesbrough lacked.

Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, was pleased with the result, but the siege mentality is likely to remain firm for some while yet. "We are criticised from here to kingdom come, but I think we play good football," he said. "I have to find players from the lower leagues, I cannot shop at the top." He listed the cost of each player in his team, the most expensive of which is Efan Ekoku, at £920,000. "The whole lot cost about £4 million — that's less than Juninho's wages," he said.

Kinnear: shoestring budget

Wimbledon scored first when Earle scrambled an excellent cross from Jones into the net. Sullivan saved magnificently from Pollock before Fleming equalised for Middlesbrough. The defender, 27 and 151 competitive games into his career, guided the ball exquisitely past Sullivan. It was, amazingly, his first goal in professional football. At least its assurance matched its rarity.

Barmby, six yards clear of the pack, was set to race towards goal, but the ball ran from his control. It was typical of Middlesbrough's busy but muddled play, where their midfield resembled a pinball machine.

Juninho was denied space, especially after the break, when Reeves, the Wimbledon substitute, was brought on specifically to haunt his every move. When the Brazilian did receive the ball, it was usually deep in his own half, sometimes in the right back position. Wimbledon took the lead and secured the win when Earle passed to Ekoku and he waited patiently for Miller to move before placing it beyond his reach.

The win effectively guarantees Wimbledon another season in the Premiership, but Kinnear hardly raised a smile.

"If we had had a centre half this season and kept free of so many injuries, we could have been in the top six," he said. "We can still ruffle a few feathers in the Premier League. The lowest we finished in the past five years is twelfth. See you all next season."

MIDDLESBROUGH (4-4-2): A Miller — N Pearson, S Vickers, P Whelan, C Fleming — N Cox, J Pollock, G Kavanagh (sub: C Freestone, 68min), A Moore — Juninho, N Barmby.
WIMBLEDON (4-3-1-2): N Sullivan — N Ardley, C Perry, A Pearce (sub: A Reeves, 45), A Kimble — K Cunningham, R Earle, M Gayle (sub: A Clarke 48) — V Jones — E Ekoku, D Holdsworth.
Referee: G Ashby

Shearer cuts path through unguarded Forest

Nottingham Forest 1
Blackburn Rovers 5

By a Correspondent

WHEN Frank Clark, the Nottingham Forest manager, paid generous tribute to the quality and resilience of Blackburn Rovers before this match at the City Ground on Saturday, he was clearly unprepared for the extent to which his words would be embarrassingly confirmed.

By adding five goals to the 7-0 demolition of his side at Ewood Park in November, Blackburn completed the most crushing double experienced by Clark.

Clark was disbelieving at the finish. "I'm just pleased we only play Blackburn twice in a season," he said. "I still can't grasp that we've lost 5-1 or how we managed to be 3-1 down at half-time. It was basically down to poor defending."

Whatever the reason, Forest's outside chance of qualifying for the Uefa Cup next season has been virtually removed by a team still retaining such ambitions themselves. Clark described Blackburn's opening goal as "a comedy of errors" and criticised the way that his defenders attempted to play an offside trap near the halfway line.

Admirers of Alan Shearer will have seen it differently, praising the way that he made the chance for himself. Losing his marker by moving out to the left in front of Mike Newell's pass, he delayed his run to perfection to avoid a linesman's flag and give himself a clear run on goal.

It was the inspired moment that summed up the difference between two sweet-passing teams. Forest's ability to finish off their approaches has been suspect since the enforced sale of Stan Collymore to Liverpool.

Blackburn, with Shearer having accumulated 35 goals this season, have no such problems. Further goals by Billy McKinlay, Jason Wilcox (two) and Graham Fenton, a substitute, were equally accepted with the kind of dynamism lacking in the efforts of Jason Lee and Kevin Campbell, who should have put Forest 2-0 up in the opening 20 minutes.

Ian Woan's curving low shot, three minutes from half-time, brought Forest hope at 2-1, but the first of Wilcox's goals restored the two-goal margin within a couple of minutes as Shearer turned provider with a superbly-judged cross from the right.

"We were still in the game at 3-1 down," Clark said, "but, by the final whistle, they had had 13 scoring attempts in two games against us and scored 12 goals."

The latest addition to Blackburn's armoury is the eager and energetic Fenton, whose two goals as substitute last week seemingly left Newcastle United's championship attempt on the verge of collapse.

Arriving in the 68th minute, when Forest still had the chance to redeeem themselves, he supplied the hard-driven centre for Wilcox's second goal before completing the five-goal success by rounding the unfortunate Mark Crossley to score into an unguarded net.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle (sub: P McGregor, 80min), S Chettle, C Cooper, S Pearce — S Stone, A Haaland, C Bart-Williams, I Woan — J Lee, K Campbell.
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, C Hendry, C Coleman, J Kenna — S Ripley, T Sherwood, B McKinlay, J Wilcox — A Shearer, M Newell (sub: G Fenton, 68).
Referee: P Jones

Celtic keep up pursuit leaving Hibernian struggling

A KNOT of Celtic supporters remained behind after the 2-1 victory over Hibernian at Easter Road yesterday to cheer their heroes when they emerged to exercise on the field. Their team, too, are in the habit of sticking around. It is sheer doggedness that keeps them only four points behind Rangers in the Bell's Scottish League premier division, for they had to recover from falling behind here.

Hibernian, reduced to ten men when Love was sent off for swinging an arm into Van Hooijdonk's face after 39 minutes, retained surprsing élan for a beleaguered team. Five minutes after the interval, there was even grandeur as McGinlay turned to sweep a left-footed volley into the net.

Celtic are fortunate in possessing a remedy for the ailment of a lost goal. There have been rumours that other clubs, including Feyenoord, will bid for Van Hooijdonk, but his present employers ought to recoil from the very idea. The forward's effectiveness in front of goal is the engine that has kept the club rolling smoothly.

The barracking of the crowd, for his part in Love's dismissal, left the brash Dutchman unperturbed, and his equaliser, headed in from Donnelly's cross after 68 minutes, was the work of a wholly composed footballer. The winner, nine minutes from the end and his thirtieth goal of the season, required less finesse.

KEVIN McCARRA

Scottish commentary

McStay sent Thom, a substitute, down the right wing and the German squared for Van Hooijdonk to tuck the ball home from close range. There was indignation among the Hibernian support, but television evidence suggested that Thom had been onside. In any case, there is more than a linesman's decision for people at Easter Road to trouble over these days.

As a challenge to the Old Firm becomes, in the League at least, ever more of a pipe dream, clubs search elsewhere for their reasons to exist. They do not have to look far, however, since the obvious triumph is to be found in the immediate vicinity. A football club can be warmed by the friction that comes when you rub up a rival the wrong way.

Hibernian, in the past few years, have had the satisfaction of feeling superior to Heart of Midlothian, but that has simply made the present role reversal all the more objectionable to supporters. In December, Hibernian were ten points ahead of Hearts. Now, after this defeat, they are 12 points behind them.

Nor is there enough civic pride in a football follower's heart for any Hibernian man to take pleasure in Hearts' progress to the Tennents Scottish Cup final. The spirit shown by their side yesterday will muffle the protests for a while, but it cannot end a debate.

Two new stands have been erected and handsomely equipped. A significant part of the funding for them is underwritten by Tom Farmer, the millionaire who rescued the club from bankruptcy in 1991. He has no known interest in football, does not attend matches and said that he bought Hibernian because he did not feel that the people of Leith should lose such a focal point in the community.

It is, though, a long time since anyone remarked on his philanthropy. Instead, supporters wonder why money cannot be spent on the side as well as the stadium. Farmer may retort that the facilities bring a return on his investments, but one might wonder for how long Hibernian can sell those suites once the football has gone sour.

Elsewhere, of course, cash continues to flow unchecked. Last week, Rangers held a four-hour meeting with agents acting for Gianluca Vialli. David Murray, the Rangers chairman, stated at the weekend that terms had been agreed for the Juventus forward. It is reported that Vialli would earn £6 million over the course of a three-year contract. He must now decide whether to join Rangers, who beat Partick Thistle 5-0 on Saturday, or Parma.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

CHELSEA (3) 4 LEEDS (0) 1
Hughes 19, 35, 48 (pen) McAllister 66
Spencer 20 22,131

Chelsea: D Kharine, R Guiltt, J Spencer (sub: G Peacock 69min), M Hughes, D Wise, C Burley, A Myers, N Spackman, G Lee, M Duberry, S Minto

Leeds United: J Lukic, G Kelly, I Harte, C Palmer, J Pemberton (sub: L Radebe, 37min), D Wetherall, A Gray, T Brolin, B Deane, G McAllister, G Speed.

Booked: Pemberton

Referee: D J Gallagher

COVENTRY (0) 1 QPR (0) 0
Jess 69 22,910
Sent off: A Impey (QPR) 80

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, A Pickering, L Daish, D Rennie (sub: E Jess, 45min), M Hall, P Williams, K Richardson, P Ndlovu, G Strachan, D Dublin, N Whelan.

Booked: Daish, Rennie, Whelan, Hall

Queens Park Rangers: J Seymour, D Bardsley, A McDonald, S Yates, R Brevett, S Barker, I Holloway, A Impey, T Sinclair, K Gallen, M Hateley (sub: R Williams, 77min)

Booked: Bardsley, Brevett

Referee: K Cooper

MAN CITY (0) 1 SHEFF WED (0) 0
Rosler 65 30,898

Manchester City: E Immel, M Frontzeck (sub: M Phillips, 64min), S Lomas, K Curle, G Kinkladze, I Brightwell, K Symons, M Brown, N Clough, U Rosler, M Hawkins (sub: N Quinn, 64min)

Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, P Atherton, M Pembridge (sub: J Sheridan, 80min), S Nicol (sub: C Waddle, 67min), D Hirst, M Degryse (sub: O Donaldson, 73min), R Blinker, D Walker, G Whittingham, J Newsome, L Briscoe

Booked: Nicol, Newsome

Referee: R A Hart

MIDDLESBORO (1) 1 WIMBLEDON (1) 2
Fleming 23 Earle 13
29,192 Ekoku 64

Middlesbrough: A Miller, N Cox, C Fleming, P Whelan, N Pearson, S Vickers, J Pollock, A Moore, G Kavanagh (sub: C Freedman, 69min), Juninho, N Barmby.

Booked: Whelan.

Wimbledon: N Sullivan, A Cunningham, A Kimble, V Jones, R Earle, E Ekoku, D Holdsworth, M Gayle (sub: A Clarke, 49min), N Ardley, C Perry, A Pearce (sub: A Reeves, 46min)

Booked: Cunningham, Kimble, Perry, Holdsworth.

Referee: E Ashby

NOTTM F (1) 1 BLACKBURN (3) 5
Wilcox 41 Shearer 27
25,273 McKinlay 31
Wilcox 45, 68
Fenton 83

Nottingham Forest: M Crossley, D Lyttle (sub: P McGregor, 67min), S Pearce, C Cooper, S Chettle, K Campbell, S Stone, J Lee, I Wright, A Haaland, C Bart-Williams.

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, C Coleman, J Kenna, T Sherwood, C Hendry, S Ripley, A Shearer, M Newell (sub: G Fenton, 67min), J Wilcox, W McKinlay, H Berg.

Booked: Kenna, Sherwood, McKinlay

Referee: P Jones

SOUTHAMPTON (3) 3 MAN UTD (0) 1
Monkou 11 Giggs 89
Shipperley 23 15,262
Le Tissier 43

Southampton: D Beasant, J Dodd, F Benali, J Magilton, A Neilson, K Monkou, M Le Tissier, B Venison, N Shipperley, S Charlton, N Heaney.

Booked: Venison.

Manchester United: P Schmeichel, D Irwin, S Bruce, L Sharpe (sub: D May, 54min), E Cantona, R Giggs, R Keane, A Cole, N Butt (sub: P Scholes, 45min), G Neville, D Beckham

Booked: Beckham.

Referee: G Poll

WEST HAM (1) 1 BOLTON (0) 0
Cottee 26 23,096

West Ham United: L Miklosko, T Breacker, S Bilic, M Rieper, J Dicks, A Cottee, M Hughes (sub: J Moncur, 76min), D Williamson, I Bishop, R Slater (sub: K Rowland, 44min), I Dowie

Booked: Dowie.

Bolton Wanderers: G Ward, G Bergsson, C Fairclough, S Coleman, J Phillips, J McGinlay, S Sellars, A Stubbs, A Thompson, S Curtis, M Blake (sub: F de Freitas, 56min).

Booked: Phillips.

Referee: A G Wilkie.

Yesterday

NEWCASTLE (0) 1 A VILLA (0) 0
Ferdinand 64 36,510

Newcastle United: S Hislop, J Beresford (sub: R Elliott, 25min), G Watson, D Peacock, P Albert, D Batty, R Lee, D Ginola, F Asprilla, P Beardsley, L Ferdinand.

Booked: Albert, Asprilla.

Aston Villa: M Bosnich, G Charles, A Wright, U Ehiogu, P McGrath, I Taylor, M Draper, A Townsend, D Yorke (sub: J Joachim, 70min), T Johnson (sub: R Scimeca, 79min), S Milosevic.

Booked: Ehiogu, Taylor, Johnson.

Referee: M Bodenham.

TODAY

Arsenal v Tottenham

CAPTAIN Gary Mabbutt returns for Tottenham Hotspur after hamstring trouble. However, Andy Sinton, with a thigh injury, and David Howells, with a back injury, are still doubtful.

Nigel Winterburn returns for Arsenal but Tony Adams is still out after knee surgery.

Shearer: scored for Blackburn

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
A Shearer (Blackburn)	29	5	1	35
R Fowler (Liverpool)	27	8	0	35
L Ferdinand (Newcastle)	24	4	0	28
D Yorke (Aston Villa)	17	8	0	25
T Sheringham (Tottenham)	16	8	0	24
I Wright (Arsenal)	14	8	0	22
C Armstrong (Tottenham)	13	7	0	20
T Yeboah (Leeds)	12	4	3	19
S Collymore (Liverpool)	13	5	0	18

DERBY DOUBLE

THREE encounters stand out in the FA Carling Premiership calendar in terms of rivalry — the clashes of neighbouring clubs in Manchester, Liverpool and north London. It is a rare quirk of the fixture list to throw up two of these "derby" matches in two days, especially as the reverse fixtures were on the same day in November. Three teams involved are playing for European qualification while Liverpool still have a slim chance of landing the championship — added spice to the usual Merseyside pride and passion. These are the vital statistics for this week's derby matches.

ARSENAL v TOTTENHAM (today)

This season at White Hart Lane: Tottenham 2 (Armstrong, Sheringham) Arsenal 1 (Bergkamp). Booked: 5. Att: 32,894.

Last season at Highbury: Arsenal 1 (Wright) Tottenham 1 (Klinsmann). Booked: 4. Att: 38,377.

Last 10 years: 0-0, 0-0, 2-1, 2-0, 1-0, 0-0, 2-0, 1-3, 1-1, 1-1.

Record at Highbury (58 matches): Arsenal won 27, Tottenham won 14, drawn 17. Goals scored: Arsenal 86, Tottenham 70.

Overall league record (117 matches): Arsenal won 47, Tottenham won 44, drawn 26. Goals scored: Arsenal 171, Tottenham 168.

EVERTON v LIVERPOOL (tomorrow)

This season at Anfield: Liverpool 1 (Fowler) Everton 2 (Kanchelskis). Booked: 3. Att. 40,816.

Last season at Goodison Park: Everton 2 (Ferguson, Rideout) Liverpool 0. Booked: 5. Att: 39,866

Last 10 years: 2-3, 0-0, 1-0, 0-0, 1-3, 2-3, 1-1, 2-1, 2-0, 2-0.

Record at Goodison Park (76 matches): Everton won 30, Liverpool won 23, drawn 23. Goals scored: Everton 99, Liverpool 85

Overall league record (153 matches): Everton won 52, Liverpool won 56, drawn 45. Goals scored: Everton 190, Liverpool 203.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Man Utd	35	13	4	0	30	9	9	3	6	34	26	73	+29
2 Newcastle	34	16	0	1	36	8	6	4	7	26	27	70	+27
3 Liverpool	34	13	4	1	45	13	6	4	6	21	18	65	+35
4 A Villa	35	11	4	2	31	13	7	4	7	20	19	62	+19
5 Arsenal	34	9	5	2	28	15	7	4	7	18	15	57	+16
6 Tottenham	34	9	4	5	25	18	6	6	4	20	17	55	+10
7 Everton	35	9	4	4	33	18	6	5	7	24	23	54	+16
8 Blackburn	35	13	1	3	40	16	3	5	10	14	26	54	+12
9 Nottm F	34	10	4	2	25	16	4	7	7	21	32	53	-2
10 West Ham	35	9	4	5	24	20	5	3	9	17	27	49	-6
11 Chelsea	35	7	7	4	28	19	5	5	7	15	21	48	+3
12 Middsboro	36	8	3	7	27	24	3	7	8	8	22	43	-11
13 Leeds	34	8	3	6	20	17	4	3	10	19	35	42	-13
14 Wimbledon	35	5	6	7	27	31	5	4	8	26	34	40	-12
15 Sheff Wed	35	7	4	6	28	26	3	4	11	17	29	38	-10
16 Southmptn	35	7	6	5	21	18	1	4	12	12	33	34	-18
17 Man City	36	7	8	5	19	17	1	4	13	11	39	34	-26
18 Coventry	35	6	6	6	21	23	1	6	10	19	37	33	-20
19 QPR	36	5	5	8	22	26	3	1	14	13	28	30	-19
20 Bolton	36	5	4	9	16	30	3	1	14	22	38	29	-30

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

BARNSLEY (0) 0 READING (0) 1
5 488 Quinn 78 (pen)

BIRMINGHAM (1) 4 LUTON (0) 0
Devlin 1 15,426
Furnace 76
Ezzmar 77, 90

C PALACE (1) 2 SOUTHEND (0) 0
Freedman 7, 57 15,672

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 3 MILLWALL (0) 0
Jepson 14 (pen)
Edwards 74
Booth 79 11,206

OLDHAM (0) 0 WOLVERHMPTN (0) 0
7 592

SHEFF UTD (0) 0 SUNDERLAND (0) 0
20 050

STOKE (1) 2 PORTSMOUTH (0) 1
Wallace 5 Butters 61
Sheron 90 11 471
Sent off: R Pethick (Portsmith) 21

TRANMERE (0) 1 LEICESTER (1) 1
Lennon 61 (og) Robins 16
8 882

WATFORD (2) 5 PORT VALE (1) 2
Connolly 3, 31, 80 (pen) Porter 44 (pen)
White 71, 85 McCarthy 66
2 066

WEST BROM (2) 3 GRIMSBY (1) 1
Taylor 25, 39 Forrester 31
Sneekes 84 16 116

Yesterday

CHARLTON (0) 0 DERBY (0) 0
11 334

IPSWICH (1) 2 NORWICH (0) 1
Marshall 25 Cureton 62
Williams 86 (og) 30,355

SECOND DIVISION

BRENTFORD (0) 0 NOTTS CO (0) 0
4 698

BRISTOL R (1) 1 BLACKPOOL (0) 1
Beadle 44 Lingham 50
5,626

BURNLEY (0) 2 PETERBORO (0) 1
Joyce 51 Heald 67
Swan 66 8,393

CARLISLE (0) 1 WREXHAM (1) 2
Thomas 78 Connolly 39
7 317 Jones 85

CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 BRISTOL CITY (1) 1
McDougald 65 Owen 19
4,619

HULL (0) 1 CREWE (0) 2
Gordon 83 McAllister 61
3,497 Murphy 79

SWANSEA (1) 2 BRIGHTON (1) 1
Amadu 6 Amadu 22 (og)
Chapman 74 2 373

SWINDON (1) 2 BOURNEMOUTH (1) 2
Horlock 16, 72 (pen) Jones 41, 68
10 508

WALSALL (0) 2 BRADFORD (0) 1
Linthbourne 46, 57 Wright 65 (pen)
3,679

YORK (1) 2 WYCOMBE (1) 1
Bull 36 (pen) Slawalton 43
Taylor 61 3,115

THIRD DIVISION

BARNET (3) 5 HARTLEPOOL (0) 1
Bridge 11, 38, 69 Holliday 48
Devine 21, 84 1,830

BURY (0) 1 TORQUAY (0) 0
Cahill 71 3,247

CAMBRIDGE U (0) 2 DONCASTER (0) 2
Garnwell-Edmonds 62 Jones 73
Macdonald 81 Schofield 85
2 481

CHESTER (1) 1 ROCHDALE (1) 2
Rogers (pen) Whitehall 39, 84
2 156

Sent off: P Jackson (Chester) 86

COLCHESTER (1) 2 FULHAM (1) 2
McGrath 42, 75 Morgan 21
3 795 Newton 36

Sent off: A Adcock (Colchester) 65, T Angus (Fulham) 84

GILLINGHAM (0) 1 EXETER (0) 0
Putnam 75 7 625

HEREFORD (1) 3 L ORIENT (0) 2
Williams 38 Weir-Field 80
Wade 47, 68 3 459

LINCOLN (0) 2 MANSFIELD (0) 1
Sutton 67 (pen) Ireland 82
Bull 83 2 932

PLYMOUTH (1) 5 SCARBORO (0) 1
Marsh 26 Fletcher 90 (pen)
Gallifer 41, 77
Littlejohn 71, 90 6,295

PRESTON (0) 0 NORTHAMPTON (1) 3
11 774 Grayson 14, 71, 78

SCUNTHORPE (1) 1 CARDIFF (1) 1
Kelly 11 Dale 45
2,944

WIGAN (0) 1 DARLINGTON (1) 1
Lowe 82 Appleby 14
3 473

AUTO WINDSCREENS

Final

ROTHERHAM (1) 2 SHREWSBURY (0) 1
Jackson 31, 58 Taylor 81
5,035

GOALSCORERS

First division. 28 Edwards (Huddersfield, 21 for Chester), Bames (Birmingham, 22 for York), 26 Aldridge (Tranmere), 23 Ferguson (Crystal Palace, 3 for Barnet), 21 Booth (Huddersfield), Taylor (West Brom), 20 Roberts (Leicester), Payton (Barnsley), Goodman (Wolverhampton), 18 Stimson (Derby), White (Watford, 15 for Notts County).

Second division. 28 Stewart (Bristol Rovers), 24 Mogan (Burnley), 23 Marsdale (Notts County, 13 for Peterborough), 22 Gabbiadini (Rotherham), 21 Lightbourne (Walsall), 20 Jones (Bournemouth), 19 De Souza (Wycombe), Connolly (Wrexham).

Third division. 29 Dale (Cardiff), 26 White (Hereford), 25 Sands (Preston), 23 Whitehall (Rochdale), 19 McFarlane (Scunthorpe), 18 Littlejohn (Plymouth), 17 Geiser (Bury), Adcock (Colchester).

Bell's League Championship

PREMIER DIVISION

ABERDEEN (0) 2 MOTHERWELL (1) 1
McCart 54 (og) Falconer 41
Irvine 86 9,500

KILMARNOCK (0) 1 FALKIRK (0) 0
McIntyre 54 6,505

RAITH (0) 1 HEARTS (1) 3
Lennon 74 (pen) Cameron 42
4,766 Pointon 47
Mackay 72

RANGERS (2) 5 PARTICK (0) 0
Bo Andersen 18, 21, 63 46,438
McCall 67
Gough 89

Yesterday

HIBERNIAN (0) 1 CELTIC (0) 2
McGinlay 50 Van Hooijdonk 69, 80
11 132

FIRST DIVISION

CLYDEBANK (1) 2 AIRDRIE (1) 1
Irons 21 Hetherston 30
Flannigan 59 810

DUMBARTON (0) 0 ST MIRREN (1) 1
1,129 Archdeacon 39

DUNDEE (0) 1 DUNFERMLINE (0) 1
O'Driscoll 89 Smith 47
3,218

HAMILTON (0) 0 G MORTON (1) 1
1,519 Rajamaki 7

ST JOHNSTON (1) 1 DUNDEE UTD (0) 0
Fleetley 39 (og) 1,931

SECOND DIVISION

BERWICK (0) 4 MONTROSE (0) 1
Forrester 58, 75, 85 Miller 87
Reid 89 367

CLYDE (1) 2 EAST FIFE (0) 2
McCluskey 9 Chalmers 78, 84
Nicholas 58 1,300

FORFAR (1) 2 STRANRAER (1) 2
Higgins 12, 70 McMillan 16, 51
386

QUEEN OF SOUTH (0) 0 STIRLING (4) 7
1,200 Bone 8 (pen), 56, 63
Gibson 20, 37
Tait 31
Paterson 81

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0 AYR (1) 1
550 Henderson 14

THIRD DIVISION

BRECHIN (0) 0 LIVINGSTON (0) 1
768 Tierney 85
Sent off: S Ross (Brechin) 68

CALEY THIS (1) 2 COWDENBEATH (0) 0
Christie 34 721
Thomson 59

EAST STIRLING (1) 1 ALBION (0) 1
Abercromby 16 Young 61
203

QUEEN'S PARK (0) 0 ARBROATH (0) 0
467
Sent off: D Brodie (Queen's Park) 46

ROSS CO (0) 0 ALLOA (0) 0
1 068

CONFERENCE

DOVER (0) 1 ALTRINCHAM (2) 4
Lewcrofty 85 Dougherty 4, 25
1 070 Harris 52, 65

GATESHEAD (0) 0 WOKING (0) 1
919 Hay 59

HEDNESFORD (0) 0 DAG AND RED (0) 0
946

KETTERING (1) 2 MORECAMBE (2) 3
Ollerton 7 Jackson 10
Hunnisett 71 McClusie 38
1 124 Norman 89

SLOUGH (0) 0 WELLING (0) 0
765

SOUTHPORT (1) 2 BATH (1) 1
Goulding 22 Walker 16
Dove 58 643

STEVENAGE (0) 2 STALYBRIDGE (0) 2
Hayles 87 Powell 48
Breese 90 Burke 82
1 767

TELFORD (0) 1 HALIFAX (1) 1
Eccleston 40 Trotter 26
708

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Stevenage	36	12	5	2	39	19	11	3	3	43	20	77
2 Woking	37	14	4	3	41	12	9	2	8	34	36	75
3 Hednesford	36	11	5	3	35	20	10	3	6	31	22	72
4 Macclsfld	36	12	3	4	30	14	8	3	6	28	25	66
5 Kidderminstr	37	13	2	3	45	21	5	5	9	27	36	61
6 Gateshead	38	8	6	5	29	22	9	4	6	24	20	61
7 Farnborough	37	9	5	4	39	23	8	4	7	23	33	60
8 Kettering	38	7	5	7	22	20	7	7	5	33	30	54
9 Merthyr Tyd	37	11	2	7	38	32	5	3	9	24	35	53
10 Boston Utd	37	9	5	3	28	16	4	8	6	26	36	52
11 Hednesg	36	9	5	4	36	21	4	4	10	26	42	49
12 Altrincham	38	6	6	6	27	27	6	6	8	24	33	48
13 Halifax	40	8	6	6	28	23	4	6	10	18	36	48
14 Northwich	34	7	3	7	27	29	5	7	5	23	24	46
15 Telford	38	7	7	6	24	22	5	3	10	17	29	46
16 Solihullgge	37	8	3	8	26	33	5	4	9	23	29	46
17 Slough	38	4	6	10	34	45	3	1	9	25	28	45
18 Barnet	37	9	1	7	24	25	3	3	13	15	33	42
19 Welling	30	5	5	6	19	21	3	7	10	19	29	39
20 Dover	38	6	0	12	29	37	3	5	11	22	34	38
21 Dag & Red	38	4	7	8	26	31	2	5	12	11	35	30
22 Runcorn	37	4	5	9	20	35	3	3	13	19	42	29

FA TROPHY

Semi-final: First leg

HYDE (1) 1 NORTHWICH (1) 2
Varden 43 Cooke 45
2 253 Humphreys 71

MACCLESFIELD (0) 3 CHORLEY (1) 1
Thorpe 51 (og) Hook 25
Coates 84 2,260
Howe 87

Diomede, left, of Auxerre, and Casoni, of Marseille, challenge for the ball during their semi-final of the French Cup. Auxerre finally won 3-1 on penalties

OVERSEAS

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Juventus 0 Sampdoria 3, Atalanta 3 Cagliari 0, Bari 2 Cremonese 1; Inter 8 Padova 2; Lazio 2 Parma 1; Napoli 0 Milan 1, Piacenza 1 Torino 0, Udinese 1 Fiorentina 0; Vicenza 2 Roma 1.

GERMAN LEAGUE: Borussia Moenchengladbach 2 Cologne 1; VfB Stuttgart 0 Bayern Munich 1; Freiburg 0 Karlsruhe 3, Kaiserslautern 1 Hamburg 2, Borussia Dortmund 0 Schalke 0, St Pauli 1 Werder Bremen 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	28	16	3	7	57	35	51
Borussia Dortmund	27	15	9	3	61	27	54
Moenchengladbach	27	14	5	8	43	40	47
Schalke 04	27	9	13	5	31	28	40
VfB Stuttgart	28	8	12	7	32	30	36
SV Hamburg	27	8	11	7	38	38	35
Hansa Rostock	26	9	10	7	40	34	37
Munich 1860	28	9	10	9	43	40	37
Karlsruhe	28	9	10	9	41	40	37
Werder Bremen	26	8	13	7	30	32	37
Freiburg	26	8	8	11	24	33	32
St Pauli	28	8	9	11	36	43	33
Leverkusen	26	7	11	8	30	25	32
Dusseldorf	27	6	12	9	29	38	30
Cologne	28	5	13	10	24	30	28
Eintracht Frankfurt	26	6	9	11	33	35	27
Kaiserslautern	27	4	13	10	23	34	25
Uerdingen	28	2	11	15	23	46	17

SPANISH LEAGUE: Racing Santander 1 Barcelona 1, Seville 0 Real Madrid 0; Albacete 2 Compostela 1, Real Sociedad 5 Valencia 2, Sporting 0 Oviedo 1, Espanyol 4 Rayo Vallecano 2, Celta 1 Zaragoza 1; Deportivo de La Coruna 2 Merida 1, Valladolid 1 Athletic de Bilbao 1

FRENCH CUP: Semi-final: Marseille 1 Auxerre 1 (aet; Auxerre win 3-1 on penalties).

DUTCH LEAGUE: Heerenveen 1 Vitesse Arnhem 2, Roda JC Kerkrade 1 NEC Nijmegen 0; Ajax Amsterdam 1 RKC Waalwijk 0, Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 0 Feyenoord 3, NAC Breda 4 Twente Enschede 1 Graafschap Doetinchem 3 Groningen 1

BELGIAN LEAGUE: Beveren 2 Ghent 2, KK Mechelen 2 Cercle Brugge 1, Seraing 0 Molenbeek 1, Sint Truiden 2 Aalst 2, Harelbeke 0 Lommel 3, FC Bruges 2 Lierse 1, Germinal Beveren 3 Charleroi 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Bruges	31	24	5	2	79	26	77
Anderlecht	31	21	4	6	79	34	67
RWDM	31	13	11	7	36	28	50
Lierse	31	13	10	8	50	36	49
Beveren	31	13	8	10	45	38	47
Lommel	31	13	5	13	38	42	44
Charleroi	31	11	11	9	51	48	44
Standard Liege	31	11	11	9	45	42	44
Harelbeke	31	13	4	14	37	42	43
KC Mechelen	31	11	7	13	34	42	40
Cercle Bruges	31	10	10	11	44	44	40
FC Antwerp	31	10	7	15	35	43	37
Sint Truiden	31	10	7	14	39	53	37
Aalst	31	9	10	12	44	47	37
AA Ghent	31	8	11	12	35	47	35
Seraing	31	6	5	19	33	62	23
Beveren	31	6	6	17	34	48	23
Waregem	31	3	5	19	36	64	17

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

PREMIER DIVISION: Bamber Bridge 2 Spennymoor 0, Bishop Auckland 1 Emley 0, Buxton 2 Blyth Spartans 1, Frickley 1 Colwyn Bay 1, Gainsborough 2 Boston 1, Guiseley 1 Barrow 3, Leek 2 Knowsley 0; Matlock 2 Accrington S 0, Winsford 3 Droylsden 2.

Bamber Bridge	P 38	W 19	D 15	L 4	F 74	A 40	Pts 72
Barrow	38	18	12	8	64	39	66
Boston Utd	38	20	5	13	75	53	65
Hyde Utd	35	18	8	9	76	42	62
Gainsborough	37	17	11	9	53	38	62
Witton Alb	37	17	7	13	57	54	58
Blyth Spartans	36	15	11	10	63	50	56
* Accrington S	38	15	13	11	56	52	55
Bishop Auckland	40	15	10	15	58	52	55
Emley	37	15	9	13	50	47	54
Guiseley	34	14	10	10	51	42	52
Spennymoor	37	12	15	10	53	50	51
Marine	35	13	11	11	48	43	50
Knowsley	38	13	6	20	57	62	45
Leek Town	38	10	13	15	49	50	43
Chorley	35	12	7	16	52	61	43
Colwyn Bay	37	9	15	13	38	48	42
Winsford Utd	37	9	14	14	47	68	41
* Frickley	38	10	12	16	55	79	39
Droylsden	39	9	7	23	53	97	34
Matlock	38	7	11	21	64	77	32
Buxton	37	7	9	21	35	68	30

* Three points deducted

FIRST DIVISION: Atherton 2 Workington 1, Ashton United 3 Leigh 2, Atherton 2 Warrington 1, Bradford PA 0 Netherfield 2, Congleton 2 Harrogate Town 1, Fleetwood 1 Lincoln U 1, Great Harwood 3 Curzon Ashton 4, Greenalls 7 Farsley Celtic 1, Lancaster 2 Eastwood T 2, Padiham 1 Whitley Bay 0

BEAZER HOMES

PREMIER DIVISION: Atherstone 1 Hastings 0, Bedford 0 Gloucester 1, Cheltenham 1 Worthy 4, Chelmsford 1 Sudbury 1, Crawley 2 Stafford 1, Dorchester 2 Burton 1, Grantham 2 Salisbury 2, Halesowen 2 Cambridge C 1, Ilkeston 1 Gravesend 1, Rushden and D 3 Newport AFC 0, Worcester 4 VS Rugby 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rushden & D	37	25	7	5	87	36	82
Halesowen	38	23	11	4	63	34	80
Cheltenham	38	20	9	9	66	50	69
Worcester	37	18	11	8	55	34	65
Gloucester	38	18	8	12	59	43	62
Gresley R	35	17	9	9	57	45	60
Worthy	37	16	7	15	63	51	55
Hastings	37	14	11	12	66	49	53
Crawley Town	36	13	12	11	50	49	51
Gravesend & N	37	12	10	14	53	56	46
Salisbury Tn	36	13	9	14	68	61	48
Chelmsford	38	11	15	12	41	49	48
Salisbury	38	13	9	16	51	61	48
Dover	37	12	11	14	59	60	47
Newport AFC	36	12	10	14	49	51	46
Baldock Tn	39	11	12	16	49	53	45
Cambridge City	37	11	8	18	55	67	41
Atherstone	39	10	11	18	54	73	41
Dorchester	36	11	7	18	53	52	40
Stafford	38	10	4	24	53	76	34
Ilkeston Tn	37	8	9	20	44	81	33
VS Rugby	37	5	8	24	33	81	23

MIDLAND DIVISION: Bridgnorth 3 Corby 3, Buckingham Town 2 Paget 4, Dudley Town 5 Evesham 1, Hinckley Town 1 Stourbridge 1, Kings Lynn 0 Nuneaton 1, Leicester United 1 Rothwell 1, RC Warwick 3 Grantham 2, Redditch 1 Bedworth 0, Solihull 2 Buxton 0, Sutton Coldfield 2 Bury Town 1, Tamworth 1 Moor Green 5. Southern division: Cinderford 0 Ashford 1, Clevedon 1 Braintree 0, Erith and Belvedere 1 Bashley 1, Fareham 2 Yate 1, Fisher 93 0 Havant 0, Fleet 3 Sittingbourne 1, Poole 1 Margate 2, Tonbridge Angels 2 Forest Green 3, Trowbridge 1 Weymouth 2, Waterlooville 1 Newport IOW 1, Witney 0 Weston-super-Mare 1. Yesterday: Cinderford 3 Braintree 4

ICIS

PREMIER DIVISION: Bishop's Stortford 0 Carshalton 2, Chertsey 2 Hitchin 1, Dulwich 2 Yeovil 1, Enfield 2 Kingstonian 1, Hayes 1 Boreham Wood 1; Hendon 4 Aylesbury 2, Purfleet 0 Harrow 1, St Albans 1 Grays 1, Sutton United 1 Bromley 3, Walton and Hersham 0 Yeading 0, Worthing 4 Molesey 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Enfield	37	23	6	8	67	31	75
Hayes	36	21	11	4	66	36	74
Dulwich	37	21	10	6	75	48	73
Yeovil	37	21	9	7	77	47	72
St Albans	38	19	12	8	66	36	69
Boreham Wood	35	19	11	5	54	24	68
Kingstonian	37	17	11	9	53	32	62
Harrow Borough	36	18	8	10	60	44	62
Carshalton	33	18	5	10	56	41	59
Sutton Utd	38	16	11	11	67	53	59
Aylesbury	35	15	10	10	59	44	55
Bishop's S	37	13	9	15	50	54	48
Chertsey T	37	13	6	18	43	61	45
Purfleet	38	12	7	19	47	60	43
Hendon	37	10	8	19	47	58	38
Yeading	37	8	13	16	33	51	37
Grays	37	9	10	18	38	58	37
Hitchin	38	8	10	19	39	66	37
Molesey	37	8	8	21	42	76	32
Bromley	38	8	5	25	47	88	29
Walton & H	38	7	7	24	37	70	28
Worthing	38	4	7	27	38	93	19

FIRST DIVISION: Abingdon Town 3 Wokingham 1, Aldershot Town 0 Maidenhead United

Derby stay on course for step up in status

Charlton Athletic 0
Derby County 0

By Pat Gibson

FIFTY years to the month after they beat them 4-1 after extra time in the FA Cup Final, Derby County again broke Charlton Athletic's hearts, in a match that meant almost as much to both sides at The Valley yesterday.

Charlton knew that they had to win to retain any hope of automatic promotion to the FA Carling Premiership; instead, Derby denied them to take a point that keeps their chances of a return to the promised land in their own hands.

The expressions on the faces of the respective managers told their own stories afterwards. "The most important thing today was to avoid defeat," Jim Smith, the Derby manager, said, "so we have got to be happy with this result. In all honesty, I did not see Charlton as a threat. Crystal Palace are, but we are still three points in front of them with three games to play — two at home and one of them against Palace."

Mitch Cook, the manager of Scarborough, may lose his job of 21 days after he allegedly took a group of players to a pub on Friday night, the day before their 5-1 Endsleigh Insurance League third division defeat away to Plymouth Argyle.

Alan Curbishley, the Charlton manager, was not so content. "I'm a bit down," he said. "It was all set up for a great day for us, but we got carried away with the atmosphere. I was pleased with the performance and the commitment, but we were a bit anxious when we were in their penalty box and that was very disappointing."

Now, Charlton will have to take their chances in the play-offs, and just how much both sides wanted to avoid that particular lottery was evident in a frenzied match, full of whole-hearted endeavour, but short of the quality that would be required at a higher level.

It claimed its first victim in the fourth minute when Darryl Powell, the Derby midfield player, tore a hamstring so badly that Smith fears that he may be out for the rest of the season. Flynn worked hard enough to make sure that he was not too badly missed, but all the early pressure came from Charlton, whose desperation was shown by the way that they snatched at their chances, most notably when Allen headed over the bar after Hoult had blocked a fierce shot from Robinson.

Derby, attacking on the break, looked more clinical and would have taken the lead in the seventeenth minute but for Petterson, Charlton's third-choice goalkeeper, who had to be recalled from a loan spell with Colchester United to pick up the gloves because of injuries to Salmon and Ammann. Simpson released Sturridge on the left, the cross was perfect and Van der Laan's header was bound for the far corner of the net until Petterson threw himself to his right to save one-handed.

Petterson was to make another important save in the second half when a drive by Flynn was deflected in another break by Derby, although, by then, Charlton should have been ahead. Jones flashed a shot a foot wide after a tremendous scramble inside the goalmouth and, when Leaburn headed back Jones's deep cross, Newton's volley ricocheted via Hoult's legs on to a post and then away to safety.

"If we could have got one goal, I'm sure we would have gone on to win," Curbishley said; but, if it is any consolation to him, Charlton did not have to wait long for consolation after that 1946 final disappointment. They won the Cup the next year.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2): M Petterson — M Jackson, C Whyte, S Balmer, S Brown — S Newton, L Bowyer, K Jones, J Robinson — C Leaburn, B Allen (sub: D Whyte, 80min).

DERBY COUNTY (5-3-2): R Hoult — L Carsley (sub: P Trollope, 88min), D Yates, I Stimac, G Rowett, C Powell — R van der Laan, P Simpson, D Powell (sub: S Flynn, 4) — M Gabbiadini (sub: A Ward, 76), P Sturridge.

Referee: M Pierce.

Stevens, left, the creator of Shrewsbury Town's goal, tussles for possession with Brechin at Wembley yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Jemson jogs memories of better days

Rotherham United 2
Shrewsbury Town 1

By Nick Szczepanik

FILE this one under "romantic" rather than "glamorous". The final of the Auto Windscreens Shield between Rotherham United and Shrewsbury Town, neither of whom had previously graced the Wembley turf, was settled by two goals from Nigel Jemson, a player who has known the limelight but who feared for his career after a near-fatal car crash four years ago.

The auspices for goalscorers before the match were good; the presentation of the teams to Geoff Hurst was surely a better choice than the talkative Virginia Bottomley for the Coca-Cola Cup final.

In the opening minutes, it was Shaun Goater, Rotherham's Bermuda international, who drew most inspiration from Hurst's presence. He was alive to more possibilities than anyone, including most of his team-mates, intercepting a back-pass, having a goal-bound effort blocked by Whiston, and providing opportunities for less alert colleagues.

In the nineteenth minute, Goater tricked his way into the area on the left and his low, precise cross, was swept high into the net by Jemson, the former Nottingham Forest and Sheffield Wednesday player, whose goal won the 1990 Littlewoods Cup final, and who is on loan from Notts County.

Shrewsbury replied with a succession of free kicks and corners which caused minor unease among the defenders, but Matthew Clarke, 21, the Rotherham goalkeeper and captain, was hardly tested. It looked as if picking up the trophy would be his most strenuous work of the afternoon.

Shrewsbury's half-time introduction of Anthrobus, formerly with Wimbledon and Millwall, was probably designed to give Clarke more to think about; instead, it was Edwards, their own goalkeeper, who found himself under pressure. Walton's header back to him was short and, as Jemson bore down on goal, Edwards could only hack the ball against the forward's body, leaving him the simple task of running it into the empty net.

Remembering, no doubt, that the same opponents had surrendered a two-goal lead to them only the previous weekend, Shrewsbury hung on and, with ten minutes to go, Taylor reduced the deficit from close range after Stevens had cut the ball back, but there was to be no repeat of the earlier scoreline; indeed, only a fine save from Edwards prevented Jemson from claiming a hat-trick in stoppage time.

"It could be a stepping stone back to the top for him," Archie Gemmill, the joint Rotherham manager, said, "but everyone deserves as much credit. The lads always give their best. Sometimes, it's not good enough, but today, from goalkeeper to outside left, they all played well."

ROTHERHAM UNITED (4-4-2): M Clarke — P Blades, I Breckin, N Richardson, P Hurst — T Berry, D Garner, S Goodwin, A Rescoe — N Jemson, S Goater.

SHREWSBURY TOWN (4-4-2): P Edwards — J Kay, D Walton, P Whiston, C Withe — A Berkley, C Robinson (sub: A Lynch, 75min), R Scott, M Taylor — D Spink (sub: S Anthrobus, 45), I Stevens.

Referee: D Allison.

Stevenage salvage point but concede initiative

Stevenage Borough 2
Stalybridge Celtic 2

By Walter Gammie

WHEN Barry Hayles headed home Mark Smith's cross, raced in to retrieve the ball and return it to the centre spot. Stevenage Borough, in the 87th minute, at last, caught the mood of urgency that Paul Fairclough, their manager, had tried to instil from the start.

It helped to retrieve a point against Stalybridge Celtic at Broadhall Way on Saturday as Stuart Beevor went on to prod home a corner by Steve Berry to gain an equaliser in the third minute of injury time. The late spark of form, however, came too late to prevent another twist in the tale of the Vauxhall Conference season.

Stevenage know that they yielded ground to Woking, both in the two points that they gave up and in terms of psychological advantage. Woking had been crushed 4-0 by Stevenage on Easter Monday but, by winning at Gateshead on Saturday, they healed the scars.

"If we'd won today, I don't think it would have mattered. I really don't think Woking would have caught us," Fairclough said glumly. Instead, it is again up to Stevenage to erase the doubts when they travel to play Kettering Town tomorrow night while Woking have an easier looking task at home to Farnborough Town.

An all-Cheshire FA Umbro Trophy final at Wembley on May 19 looks likely after the Vauxhall Conference clubs, Macclesfield Town, 3-1 home winners over Chorley, and Northwich Victoria, who won 2-1 at Hyde United, came out on top in the first leg of the semi-finals on Saturday.

Against Stalybridge, whom they had clobbered 5-2 on their own patch last month, Stevenage succumbed to the temptation to take things too easily. Three minutes into the second half, Stevenage paid for their sloppy approach when Powell, with the aid of a pinball-style ricochet, put Stalybridge ahead. Burke then seemed to put the match out of reach in the 82nd minute.

Sodje was too casual as he tried to flick on a clearance and Burke, ball presented to his feet, unhesitatingly cut in and shot precisely past Gallagher. Finally, then, Stevenage were stung into action.

STEVENAGE BOROUGH (4-3-3): D Gallagher — S Cretton, E Sodje, M Smith, R Mutchell — S Beevor, S Berry, P Benjowdin — N Trebble, D Venables (sub: C Browne, 25min), B Hayles.

STALYBRIDGE CELTIC (5-3-2): H Willetts — K Megson, R Brown, S O'Shaughnessy, D Hall, L Coathup — B Burke, S Jones, G Challender (sub: P Wilson, 72) — C Powell (sub: G Pearson, 60), I Arnold.

Referee: L Cable.

Remaining matches

STEVENAGE: Tomorrow: Kettering (a). Apr 20: Bath (a). Apr 22: Kidderminster (a). Apr 27: Morecambe (h). Apr 29: Dagenham and Redbridge (h). May 4: Farnborough (a).

WOKING: Tomorrow: Farnborough (h). Apr 20: Halifax (a). Apr 27: Northwich (a). Apr 30: Northwich (h). May 4: Southport (h).

Freak goal decides bruising local encounter

Gunn: bad bounce

Ipswich Town 2
Norwich City 1

By Ivo Tennant

FOR Ipswich Town, a much-needed victory in their quest for a place in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division play-offs. For spectators and television viewers of a less parochial nature, this was the inevitable derby. An inadequate pitch, seven bookings and a lecture from the referee to one bench in the first half alone, numerous misplaced passes and a quite absurd winning goal.

The ill-feeling was heightened after the match when three Norwich players — Ullathorne, Bradshaw and Fleck — said that they been struck by Ipswich supporters who invaded the pitch. "These things shouldn't happen," Gary Megson, the Norwich manager, said, "but I don't want to be dwelling on the morons who came on to the pitch after the game was finished."

With Ipswich having lost their two matches over Easter, their need for victory, given their promotion ambitions, was that much more desperate. The winning goal, five minutes before the end, epitomised the scrappiness of the football. Ullathorne, Norwich's left back, opted to pass back to his goalkeeper rather than seek the sanctity of the stand.

He was but ten yards from Gunn, that most experienced of professionals, who chose not to control the ball, but to attempt to belt it downfield. He lunged with his left foot, made no contact at all, and could only watch, head in hands, as it trickled into his net. Blame not Gunn but the groundsman. The bounce was dreadfully unkind — not just on that occasion, but on several other areas of the mottled pitch.

No match in which there are seven bookings before half-time (mercifully, there was none after that) can be a celebration of football. Some of the challenges were ugly, some were simply poorly timed. Norwich lost Polston, one of their central defenders, after 19 minutes — he required six stitches in a head injury — and Prior, his replacement, failed to clear Wright's long clearance which led to Marshall's opening goal, after 23 minutes.

Marshall took the chance well, finding the far corner with his left foot from 15 yards. Thereafter, Norwich had their opportunities, notably when Fleck volleyed wide from Akinbiyi's header across goal at the end of the first half. Theirs was not a fruitful partnership. Even then, a substitution looked imminent.

Early in the second half, Cureton came on for Akinbiyi, his hair almost as green in hue as his shorts. He had been a part of the match for just two minutes when, given a yard of room on the left of Ipswich's penalty area, he drove in the equaliser. A draw looked in the offing. On a different day and, in particular, on a different pitch, that would have been the result.

IPSWICH TOWN (4-1-3-2): R Wright — G Unienbeak, J Wark (sub: A Vaughan, 83min), S Sedgley — G Williams — M Stockwell (sub: R Appleby, 73), P Mason, S Milton — J Scowcroft, I Marshall.

NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): B Gunn — C Bradshaw, J Polston (sub: S Prior, 19), R Newman, R Ullathorne — I Crook, N Adams, M Milligan, D Eadie — R Fleck, A Akinbiyi (sub: J Cureton, 60).

Referee: J Rushton.

Mighty Towers show no sign of easing up

By Nicholas Harling

LONDON Towers were at their flamboyant best as they humbled Thames Valley Tigers 118-87 on Saturday and, in the process, dispelled the fanciful notion that a basketball team with three trophies already in its grasp might be in the mood for easing up. If there is any slight falliblity in Kevin Cadle's squad, it most certainly is not complacency.

"From beginning to end, that was the best performance for consistency we've given all season," the coach said after his players had taken the first leg of the Budweiser League quarter-final play-off at Bracknell. The Towers collected the first 19 points of the game, preventing the sickly Tigers from scoring until Cory Cole's three-pointer arrived, after six minutes 29 seconds.

With his team stretching their lead to 30 points against opponents whom they had already beaten six times this season, Cadle had no need to call a time-out. Curiously, he chose to do so just two seconds before the interval. "I wanted to try one or two things out," was his bizarre explanation. "You never know when we might need them. I was not trying to rub it in."

Rub it in, though, London most certainly did. With Steve Bucknall at his dexterous best, providing assists galore and accumulating 16 points — the same as Andy Gardiner — London swept away. They were helped mainly by 25 points from Tony Windless and 18 from Danny Lewis, his fellow American.

The only surprise was that the Tigers had, in Alex Beason, the scorer of 28 points, the game's leading marksman. He was not alone in failing to cope with the speed of London's offences, even if Martin Helan did, as usual, lag behind. "He runs when he has to," Cadle said of his outstanding rebounder.

All other first legs went true to form, but the crown is slipping away from Worthing Bears, the holders for the past three years. Despite 30 points from Colin Irish, their player-coach, and a third-quarter streak of 22-7 that turned a six-point deficit into a nine-point lead, the Bears went down 78-75 at home to Sheffield Sharks.

Manchester Giants, beaten in all three league games by the Leopards, lost again 76-72 in overtime and Birmingham Bullets recovered from a slow start to beat Derby Storm 92-78. Nigel Lloyd, with 31 points, for once out-scored his prolific American team-mate, Tony Dorsey (29).

Marathon Britons hit right note

David Powell describes the top runners' fine-tuning in readiness for Sunday's race

Great Britain's three leading candidates for honours in the Flora London Marathon on Sunday took varying degrees of satisfaction from their performances in the Bupa Portsmouth road races on Saturday. Paul Evans was "delighted", Eamonn Martin "happy" and Liz McColgan just "a bit disappointed".

Evans tried out what he described as his "new lungs" and found them to his liking. Recently returned from altitude training in South Africa, Evans showed impressive speed for an athlete whose sessions have been geared to a marathon.

There is a world of difference between the five kilometres over which Evans competed in Portsmouth and a marathon, but he had told beforehand of how important it was for his frame of mind to beat Martin and Gary Staines in their final warm-up race for London. Evans, on his 35th birthday, ran a personal best road time, 13min 48sec, to finish second behind Philip Mosima, from Kenya, twice the world junior cross country champion. Paulo Guerra, the European cross country champion, from Portugal, who was third, was a notable scalp.

Staines was fifth and Martin eighth. The performances of Evans and Martin in their most recent marathons justify speculation that Britain may provide the men's winner on Sunday, though the more likely outcome is a victory for either of the Mexicans, Dionicio Cerón or German Silva, or Vincent Rousseau, from Belgium. Evans was runner-up in the New York City Marathon last November and Martin, the 1993 London champion, won the Chicago Marathon last October.

"I felt that, if I ran under 14 minutes, that would be fantastic," Martin said. He was not far off, with 14min 05sec. There had been no mental damage done losing to Evans here. "It was just good to get in a short race, turn the legs over fast and blow the lungs out," Martin said.

Martin, eighth and thirteenth in the past two London Marathons, said that his preparation had "gone better than the past two years". He has suffered neither injury nor illness since missing three days with a cold 14 weeks ago. Should he succeed, he would become, at 37, London's oldest winner, but no older than Carlos Lopes was when winning at the 1984 Olympics.

The Olympics are of only secondary interest to Evans and Martin. The first Briton may be picked for Atlanta, but neither is prepared for a safety-first strategy. They said on Saturday that they would go with the leaders, even if it is close to world record speed, which it probably will be.

The talk at Portsmouth was that Peter Whitehead, selected already for Atlanta, may have to withdraw because of injury, releasing a second Olympic place for the Britons to fight over in London. However, after three months out, Whitehead returned quietly to racing ten days ago, recording 30min 44sec in the Salford ten-kilometres and intends to prove his fitness in the Indianapolis half-marathon next month.

McColgan: in shape to win

"London is more important to me than the Olympics," Evans said. "If you win London, it changes your life." Not as much as winning the Olympics, but Evans spoke in the realistic knowledge that he is never going to be an Olympic champion. In Atlanta, the heat and humidity are opponents that he will not have against him in London.

"I will try to go with the pace as long as it is not too crazy," Evans said. "If am sitting beside the road at 23 miles, so be it." Or, as Martin put it: "You have got to go in with one objective." Winning. Playing a cat-and-mouse game of Olympic selection is not for him. "I will not even think about that," Martin said.

After winning her first two marathons, McColgan has lost her past three, including two in London. She did not dwell for long on the adverse side of her run in Portsmouth, where she was third in 15min 18sec behind Annemari Sandell, from Finland, and Catherina McKiernan, from Ireland. "I am never happy unless I am winning ... I really thought I would run a lot faster ... I kind of let myself down," McColgan said. Then it was back to her old self — "I am very healthy ... I feel the same as I did before New York [1st, 2hr 27min 32sec, 1991] ... if I need a personal best to win, I'm in shape to do it."

Law runs into form before Badminton

By Jenny MacArthur

LESLIE LAW, riding Nicola Coe's New Flavour, had the satisfaction of relegating Mary King and King William, the European bronze medal-winners, to second place in section P — one of five advanced classes — at the Belton Pedigree Chum Horse Trials in Lincolnshire yesterday.

Law, who was also third on his Olympic long-listed horse, Capitano, in section Q, took over the ride on New Flavour from Coe at the end of last year. Yesterday, their last outing before Badminton, he underlined the gelding's ability with a fast and faultless round over the technically-demanding cross-country course.

King, who had a dressage score of 22, would have won had she not incurred 15 penalties in the showjumping. "Perhaps it's a good omen," she said. "Last year, he was clear here, but had three fences down at Badminton." With Star Appeal, her other Olympic long-listed horse, third in section N, King will start Badminton next month as one of the favourites.

Owen Moore won section Q on Incidental and finished third in section P on Swallow XIII. Daisy Dick, the daughter of the 1956 Grand National-winning jockey, Dave Dick, won section L after her "best ride ever" on the 13-year-old Headley Bravo.

The strong New Zealand contingent confirmed their Badminton form with Blyth Tait, the former world champion, winning section M on Chesterfield and Mark Todd, a dual Olympic champion, finishing runner-up in section N on Kayen and fourth on his Badminton entry, Bertie Blunt.

It was a mixed day for several of Great Britain's Olympic long-listed riders. Ian Stark was forced to withdraw Mr Mackinnon, who has a virus, but had some consolation when watching his 15-year-old daughter, Stephanie, win the junior intermediate trial on Go Bust on Saturday.

Kristina Gifford, on Midnight Blue, and Charlotte Bathe, on The Cool Customer, members of the gold medal-winning team at the European championships last year, had 15 and 20 faults respectively in the showjumping — the phase that appears to be Britain's Achilles' heel. Gifford withdrew her other long-listed horse, General Jock, who has a haematoma under his girth after his fall last week.

Results, page 34

Newport's resistance brought to an end while Llanelli flatter to deceive in Swalec Cup semi-finals

Horgan's final score rescues Neath

Neath 24
Newport 22

By Gerald Davies

PAT HORGAN'S missed attempts at goal earlier lacked all conviction. The power was simply not there. In the 78th minute, from his opponents' ten-metre line, he was handed by far his longest test of the afternoon. Gareth Llewellyn could not call for a short penalty to be taken, as he had done with others. Time was running out. Only two minutes earlier, Gareth Rees had given Newport a 22-21 lead which everyone presumed, with good reason, would be the final score. Horgan had to have a go. Nobody had any great faith. I doubt whether Horgan himself had. There was terrific pressure.

It turned out to be his best strike of the afternoon, and the most valuable. It gave Neath a place in the Swalec Cup final against Pontypridd on May 4. It would have been a sorry moment if they had not reached it.

Good games, when both teams exemplify a sport's best qualities, are almost always good contests. Good contests, on the other hand, where honest graft and strength of resolve are the main characteristics, are not necessarily good games. A weaker team making maximum use of limited resources and with an acute tactical sense of its shortcomings can make life difficult for another, manifestly more talented side. This semi-final at Cardiff Arms Park was such a match.

It turned out to be a fascinating and, for both sets of supporters, nerve-racking encounter. The quality, however, did not match the high level of excitement.

Neath were the favoured team and, after accumulating more than 60 points in the league match between the sides a few weeks ago, it was anticipated that they would expose Newport's weaknesses once more. Neath are a fine side. Newport knew it. They also knew that they could not hope to play them at their own swift and varying pace. The game's excitement arose because Neath were clearly the better team but were losing to an inferior one. This tension proved dynamic.

Newport had to discompose Neath. Disruption was the key: get in among them and spoil was, no doubt, the primary command. The referee was of the view that such practice was not always on the right side of the law. So much so that the penalty count was 20-6 in Neath's favour. Snow and Moseley were both given warnings in the first quarter. Newport felt hard done by. Of the penalty count, Gareth Rees, without wishing to be drawn into too forthright a comment, simply said: "It was a bit lopsided."

He was Newport's inspiration. From the moment his team went into a seven-point lead after a try 14 seconds into the game, Gareth Rees had the room he needed to play with. Paul Williams's intended surprise kick-off to the left, away from the forwards to his right, was gathered by Richard Rees. He shrugged aside Geraint Evans's attempted tackle to race a full 60 metres for the try which Gareth Rees converted. This was a surprise indeed.

Gareth Rees now knew that it was Neath who were going to have to chase Newport — something few would have predicted. There is nobody better-equipped, with such confidence, audacity and the pinpoint accuracy of his kicking, to play the cat and mouse game. Hard as Neath tried to capture the rhythm generated over a whole season, the sudden deficit had knocked it out of them. Gareth Rees continued to bedevil their efforts. A cumulative frustration set in, graphically embodied in the two periods — one in each half — when Neath, over prolonged spells of half a dozen scrums or so, went for the pushover try, only for Newport, at each stage, to wheel away out of difficulty.

Territorially, Neath had the better of the match, but, whereas they wasted opportunities, Newport invariably returned well rewarded each time that they entered their opponents' half. They always managed to keep in front.

Full results and league tables ....Page 34

After the try, Horgan closed the gap with a penalty goal, only for Gareth Rees, under pressure, to drop the sweetest of goals. Horgan missed the conversion of Morris's try, which should have drawn his team level, but Gareth Rees, for his part, succeeded with a penalty. The stand-off half ensured that Neath had to continue to do the chasing. Horgan's further two penalty goals to Gareth Rees's one closed the gap, but, just before half-time, Horgan failed with one more and Rees found the target to put his side five points ahead.

A sense of defeat could easily have set in for Neath. To their credit, they refused to cave in. Their supporters should feel pleased at the growing maturity of their team, but they had to suffer more frustration before victory was secured.

At last, Leigh Davies got his hand on the ball and, as in his performances in a Wales jersey, he did not disappoint. He raced and swerved through a midfield defence with barely a hand laid upon him for a superb try that Horgan converted. Neath held on to the two-point lead for a quarter of an hour. Then, with barely four minutes to go, Gareth Rees dealt what must have seemed a terminal blow with another penalty goal, only for Horgan to have his moment of glory.

SCORERS: Neath: Tries: Morris, L Davies Conversion: Horgan. Penalty goals: Horgan (4) Newport: Try: R Rees Conversion: G Rees. Penalty goals: G Rees (4) Dropped goal: G Rees
NEATH: R Jones, C Higgs, L Davies, J Funnell, G Evans, P Williams, P Horgan; D Morris, B Williams, J Davies, I Boobyer, Glyn Llewellyn, Gareth Llewellyn, R Jones, J Burnell
NEWPORT: S Davies, R Rees, D Hughes, A Pathey, M Llewellyn; G Rees, J Hewlett; R Snow, A Peacock, S Cronk, D Grey, M Boyle, K Moseley, M Workman, R Goodey
Referee: G Simmonds (Taff's Well)

HUW EVANS

Gareth Llewellyn, of Neath, displays his pulling power in trying to bring Snow, of Newport, to the ground in the Swalec Cup semi-final

Jenkins clarifies Pontypridd's double vision

Pontypridd 35
Llanelli 17

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

FOR 40 minutes at the Brewery Field, Bridgend, on Saturday, one wondered why English clubs were hastening into bed with the Welsh. Both the Rugby Football Union and their rebellious clubs seek an Anglo-Welsh tournament next season, yet here, in a Swalec Cup semi-final, were Pontypridd and Llanelli playing error-strewn, limited rugby.

Fortunately, there is steel and resilience in Pontypridd's soul. Though they have enjoyed scarcely a jot of Bath's success, there should be a fellow feeling between the clubs which, in the case of Pontypridd, is based on being outside the privileged few of Welsh rugby. Literally so, as they live just a few miles from the svelte men of Cardiff.

Yet it is they, not Cardiff, nor Llanelli, nor sinking Swansea, who will be in the Cup final, still seeking the trophy that will prove to the world that "Ponty" are a club to reckon with. "Others think we need to win a cup to prove we have arrived, but we don't," Dennis John, their coach, said. "We are capable of playing any club side in the world."

The Cup and Heineken League stand within their grasp, as they did last year, when Pontypridd came second each time. "We had a taste of the final last year and the players want to go back and win this time," John said. "Not only because it's Nigel Bezani's last year, but also for themselves and for the club."

At one stage, the dream of Bezani, veteran prop and captain, seemed to be drifting away on the raw breeze that blew down the ground. Llanelli stood 17-9 to the good through an untidy try by Rupert Moon and the stage was set for them, through the lineout dominance of the 6ft 10in Paul Jones, to reach their thirteenth final.

However, they have been inconsistent all season and, instead, Pontypridd tightened their game, blew out the cobwebs caused by illness, which had affected their preparations, and scored 26 unanswered points. Both locks, as well as several other players, suffered from a stomach bug last week, while Neil Jenkins, their stand-off half, was recovering from flu 24 hours before the kick-off. With the breeze behind him, however, he ruled the second half.

Pontypridd's pragmatic game is of the sort that will make any opponent in a putative Anglo-Welsh league worry about visiting their ground, but it is more than just a combative pack and a kicking stand-off. Indeed, Jenkins showed once more his eye for a gap, his strength in the tackle and the accuracy of his long passing, while David Manley is among the best finishers in the Welsh game.

Although Pontypridd were awarded six successive penalties, which helped to stem the early Llanelli surge, Stephen Pearce — whose older brother, Gary, also played stand-off for Llanelli and briefly for Wales before joining rugby league — kicked three penalty goals and a dropped goal to establish Llanelli's advantage. Indeed, Jenkins, given the chance of two long-range penalties, opted to kick for position rather than at the posts; but it was not until Moon's try that Pontypridd produced the form with which they are now identified.

There may have been an element of doubt as to whether Manley reached Geraint Lewis's chip first, but there was none about Jenkins's break after Rowley had poached Llanelli ball. A long pass sent Manley scudding over and then, when Jenkins spun out of a tackle, Paul John was at his elbow for the try.

With Llanelli so tactically deficient — they never once achieved the fluidity that would have allowed the creative Gwyn Jones to come into his own — that would have been enough, but there was icing to come on Pontypridd's cake. Yet another Llanelli attack broke down ten metres short and Jason Lewis hared away, exchanged passes with Gavin Jones and Geraint Lewis finished off gleefully.

SCORERS: Pontypridd: Tries: Manley (2), Paul John, G Lewis. Penalty goals: Jenkins (5). Llanelli: Try: Moon. Dropped goal: Pearce. Penalty goals: Pearce (3)
PONTYPRIDD: G Jones; D Manley, J Lewis, C Cormack, G Lewis; N Jenkins, Paul John; N Bezani, Phil John, N Eynon, M Spiller, G Prosser, M Rowley, R Collins, D McIntosh. Spiller replaced by M Lloyd (70min).
LLANELLI: J Thomas; I Evans, N Boobyer, N Davies, W Proctor; S Pearce, R Moon; R Evans, R McBryde, S John, M Perego, P Davies, P Jones, G Jones, C Wyatt. Perego replaced by P Morris (50)
Referee: D Davies (Llanbradach).

Potter provides smooth finish

Bristol 29
Leicester 43

By Bryan Stiles

THE demolition men have moved in on Bristol. Their venerable West Stand bites the dust courtesy of one gang today, two days after another, in the form of the Leicester team, set about demolishing their Courage Clubs Championship first division survival hopes.

This defeat for Bristol condemned them to continue battling it out with Saracens and Gloucester to avoid the drop to the second division, along with the already-doomed West Hartlepool.

The situation is just as fraught at the top as Leicester, the champions, struggle to overtake Bath. If these two teams are level on points at the end of the season, as seems likely, points difference will resolve the issue and Leicester will rue the way that they allowed Bristol to force their way back into the game and score points against them that could prove critical.

Leicester, who looked streets ahead of their West Country opponents in terms of class, seemed poised to make substantial inroads into Bath's superior points difference when they led 30-9 after only six minutes of the second half.

Bristol's resistance appeared to have been broken, but they knew that points difference might be all-important to their cause, too, and they produced a frenzied spell of attacking rugby that produced 17 points and reduced Leicester's advantage to 30-26 before they re-established control.

It was a hectic period in which Leicester seemed to be giving away penalties for offside at almost every play. This worried them so much that Ian Smith, their coach, sought an audience with the referee after the match to establish why his team had been penalised so often when they seemed to have adhered to the laws.

They were, however, justifiably happy with the return of Stuart Potter after a long-term injury. He added an extra dimension to their play, laying on the first of two tries for Rory Underwood and scoring the final try with graceful aplomb.

Jez Harris, the Leicester stand-off half, who is not noted for his running game, was allowed to make two decisive breaks that shredded the Bristol defence. Although Bristol were highly committed in attack, they were guilty of neglecting the defensive chores at critical moments and paid a high price for it.

The first quarter of the match was a tedious stop-start affair with the kickers handing out punishment. By the seventeenth minute, Mark Tainton had kicked three penalty goals for Bristol and Leicester had replied with two from John Liley and a dropped goal from Harris.

The Memorial Ground was lit up by Underwood's first try from a sweeping move that started on the Leicester 22 and ended with Potter providing the scoring pass.

Leicester started the second half explosively with Liley and Underwood adding to the try tally to make the score 30-9. Bristol threw everything into attack, with Rollit and Bracken scoring tries and Tainton converting both and adding a penalty goal to bring Bristol to within four points. Potter's try and two more penalty goals by Liley, who scored 25 points, settled the issue.

SCORERS: Bristol: Tries: Rollit, Bracken. Conversions: Tainton (2) Penalty goals: Tainton (5) Leicester. Tries: Underwood (2), Liley, Potter. Conversions: Liley (4). Dropped goal: Harris. Penalty goals: Liley (4)
BRISTOL: P Hull; B Breeze, S Martin, K Meggs, R Knibbs; M Tainton, K Bracken; A Sharp, A Lathrope, D Hinkins, M Corry, P Adams, M Fountaine, K Pearson, E Rollit
LEICESTER: J Liley; S Hackney, S Potter, R Robinson, R Underwood; J Harris, A Kardooni; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, C Tarbuck, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, D Richards. Poole replaced by W Johnson (76min)
Referee: C White (Gloucester)

Dawe steps up to keep Bath on course for title

Saracens 15
Bath 21

By Alison Kervin

AFTER a week in which English rugby lost the plot, it was fitting, on Saturday, that a relegation-threatened side should come so close to beating the likely champions.

Bath arrived at Saracens' Southgate ground nursing their wounds after a midweek defeat at the hands of Gloucester, while Saracens were struggling with the realisation that their fate now rests on the outcome of talks between the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and the clubs.

If the RFU has its way, two teams will be relegated from the top flight, and Saracens are holding the penultimate spot in the Courage Clubs Championship first division. However, if the RFU does have its way, the clubs' threat to boycott all RFU competitions next season will come into effect, so Saracens' future is inexorably intertwined with the debate that is tearing apart the sport at the top level.

It was in this context that they played Bath on Saturday in a match that divided into three clear phases of domination. As the curtains went back, it was Bath who excelled, with some fierce, attacking rugby that gave them a handsome 13-0 lead after 20 minutes. Saracens, though, who have Philippe Sella and Michael Lynagh signed up to take centre stage next season, are as eager to pull themselves away from the relegation zone as Bath are to mount up the points and secure the championship.

So, in front of a crowd of 6,000 who had come to see Saracens last first-team game at Southgate before they move to share Southbury Road with Enfield Football Club, they pulled themselves back. Tony Diprose and Eddie Halvey both went over, and Saracens found themselves with a 15-13 lead 15 minutes before time.

Then the final scene began, and the unlikely figure of Graham Dawe galloped towards the Saracens line to save the day for Bath. He took a pass from Mike Catt, the Bath stand-off half, after he had chipped the ball cleverly over the Saracens defence and caught it himself. "I thought it was Jon Sleightholme outside me," Catt said. Catt was Bath's saviour on Saturday. He had a fine match at stand-off after much debate about his best position for club and country.

Saracens can be proud of the fight they put up. Their back row of Diprose, Richard Hill and Halvey performed excellently. Diprose was immense, both at the back of the lineout and in the loose.

Their weak link was at stand-off, where Gareth Hughes, deputising for the injured Andy Lee, struggled all afternoon. He will not want to be reminded, but he missed two dropped goals, one conversion and four penalties, many of them from eminently kickable positions.

Bath took their early lead thanks to two penalty goals by Jon Callard and a converted try by Adedayo Adebayo. Saracens responded with tries from Halvey and Diprose, and a penalty goal and conversion from Hughes, before Bath regained the lead with Dawe's try. Callard added his third penalty goal to stretch Bath's advantage to six points.

Saracens' remaining matches are against Gloucester and Bristol, the other sides staring a possible drop to the second division in the face.

SCORERS: Saracens: Tries: Diprose, Halvey. Conversion: G Hughes. Penalty goal: G Hughes. Bath: Tries: Adebayo, Dawe. Conversion: Callard. Penalty goals: Callard (3).
SARACENS: P Hughes; K Chesney, S Ravenscroft, D Dooley, P Hames; G Hughes, B Dawes; G Holmes, G Botterman, S Wilson, E Halvey, M Burrow, R Hill, A Copsey, A Diprose
BATH: J Callard; J Sleightholme, P de Glanville, A Adebayo, A Lumsden, M Catt, A Nicol; D Hilton, G Dawe, J Mallett, S Ojomoh, M Haag, A Robinson, N Redman, E Peters. Hilton replaced by D Crompton (44min)
Referee: S Piercy (Yorkshire)

Harlequins court Benazzi

Harlequins 33
Gloucester 19

By Peter Bills

HARLEQUINS are attempting to sign the player widely regarded as Europe's leading forward in their attempt to put themselves at the summit of the English club game.

A three-man delegation, which included Will Carling, flew to Bordeaux last week to hold talks with Agen and Abdel Benazzi, the France international. A lucrative financial package, believed to be worth more than £300,000 for a three-year deal, was put to the player.

Benazzi is reluctant to leave his Agen base but the force of Harlequins' argument and their desire to land such an outstanding player was underlined by the presence of Carling on the trip.

With Gareth Llewellyn, the Wales international lock, having already signed, Harlequins, who are backed by a £1.5 million sponsorship deal with a Japanese company, are poised to make some spectacular signings.

Dick Best, the director of rugby, said: "We are talking to a lot of players, but the problem at the moment is the confusion existing in English rugby over the RFU-English clubs conflict. Until that is resolved, you can't blame players for being reluctant to make a decision."

Thus, events off the field at the Stoop on Saturday for English rugby's first Ladies Day overshadowed what took place on it. Predictably, Gloucester were unable to raise themselves three days after their heroic victory over Bath, and Harlequins, after a poor first half, were able to stroll to victory.

Only one more match matters to Gloucester this season — the final league game, at home against Saracens — and they will field a virtual second XV on Wednesday week against Leicester. Richard Hill, the coach, said: "I want our top players fresh and champing at the bit for the Saracens match. If we win that, we are safe."

Keith Richardson, the Harlequins coach, was unhappy. "I'm very disappointed," he said. "A big score was there for us against a team which was out of it after the Bath match. We need to be a lot more clinical than that." Harlequins were a miserly 8-3 ahead at half-time before shooting ahead to 33-9 by the seventieth minute. Greenwood made three of the four second-half tries and scored the other, showing some deft touches, and Lloyd, on his league debut, harvested valuable lineout ball. The job, on the field, is done: a European place is assured.

Benazzi: in demand

SCORERS: Harlequins: Tries: O'Leary (2), Challinor Staples, Greenwood Conversion: Challinor Penalty goal: Challinor Dropped goal: Challinor, Gloucester: Tries: Raymond, Smith Penalty goals: Smith (3).
HARLEQUINS: J Staples; D O'Leary, W Greenwood, P Memsah, S Bromley, P Challinor, R Kachuk, J Leonard, S Mitchell; A Mullins, G Allison, A Snow, S Lloyd, R Jenkins, M Watson.
GLOUCESTER: T Smith, P Holford, M Roberts, L Osborne, P Hart, M Kimber, S Benton; A Windo, P Greening, A Deacon, P Miles, R Fidler, D Sims, A Stanley, C Raymond. Fidler replaced by J Hawker (62min)
Referee: B Campsall (Yorkshire)

Promotion party on hold

Rugby 13
Coventry 24

By Nicolas Andrews

WITH the nation's leading clubs and the Rugby Football Union (RFU) fighting over the future of the game in England, spare a thought for those at the top of the Courage Clubs Championship third division. Coventry, Richmond, Rugby and Rotherham should all be celebrating promotion to an expanded second division, but, if the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (EPRUC) decides to go its own way, these are the teams that will be left behind.

Coventry have written to the clubs in the top two divisions urging them to find a compromise. They have not been asked, and have no intention of joining a breakaway organisation, but, from a position of relative neutrality, they see themselves as potential arbiters between warring factions.

"The clubs have got a case, but they are not putting it very well," Gerry Sugrue, the Coventry chairman, said. "You can see these egos driving it on and I resent people speaking in our name without any consultation. I don't like the rhetoric from either camp, but the RFU has got to give some ground."

Coventry are equipped to cope with life in the second division. They were deserved winners at Webb Ellis Road on Saturday despite the best efforts of a gallant but weakened Rugby side. The absence of the experienced Bowman proved critical in the lineouts and Underhill has left for a summer in New Zealand sooner than the club would have wished.

The game's defining moment came just before half-time, near the Rugby line, when Burdett, the Rugby hooker, contrived to throw in straight to Horrobin, the Coventry flanker. He plunged unopposed for the line for his ninth league try of the season and so Coventry turned round 11 points ahead.

Rugby had recovered after conceding two early penalties. Eddie Saunders, the popular right wing who has a testimonial next Sunday, chipped and chased to win Rugby a lineout in the corner. Smith leapt high and, from the resulting maul, Ashmead went over.

Reayer had an impressive game in the centre for Coventry and his run from halfway set up the position from which Barden reclaimed the lead for Coventry on 24 minutes. Derek Eves, the Coventry player-coach, was pleased at the way his side drove forward and profited from second- and third-phase ball, and this was the difference between the teams.

The top two teams will get £22,000 more in prize-money than the two that finish behind them, so there was more than pride at stake. Tempers frayed in the second half as Patten and Ellis were cautioned before Jenkins was dismissed, perhaps harshly, for using his boot.

It would be a pity if these clubs lose the chance to recover their reputations at a higher level. Ironically, there may be something in it for these players if the top two divisions divorced themselves from the union that runs the national team. As Eves wryly observed: "If they do break away, maybe I'll win an England cap after all."

SCORERS: Rugby: Try: Ashmead. Conversion: Quantrill. Penalty goals: Quantrill (3). Coventry: Tries: Barden, Horrobin. Conversion: Thomas. Penalty goals: Thomas (4).
RUGBY: J Quantrill; E Saunders, M Palmer, S Glover, A Gillooly; R Pell, D Bishop; J Broady, R Burdett, T Revan, M Ellis, S Smith, P Thompson, P Ashmead, J Jenkins. Ashmead replaced by J Gardiner (61min).
COVENTRY: M Thomas; S Barden, G Reayer, S Hancox, D Woodman; R Angell, P Lydstor; G Tregilgas, D Addleton, D Williams, J Horrobin, J Hyde, A Blackmore, D Eves, I Patten. Hancox replaced by R Gee (72)
Referee: A Ellison (London)

Lloyd banks on restoring England's popular appeal

Michael Henderson talks to the coach charged with the task of rejuvenating the national side

As reunions go, the get-together today in Kensington, which honours England's cricketer of the year, sounds pretty grim. The team's performance this winter was so tame, and its manner so unappealing, that the organisers will be doing well to get a smile out of them. Some players, it is clear by now, will not be coming this way again, so "hail and farewell".

The mood surrounding the game at the start of the season is worryingly autumnal. Given the absurd "noises off", when the appointment of the chairman of selectors and the selection panel itself has been reduced to low comedy, it might have been more appropriate to have hired the Whitehall Theatre for the function this morning, and invited Ray Cooney to present the gong, preferably after entering through a bedroom window.

Into this mess strides a new man, a bold man and, from all available evidence, a good man. David Lloyd formally relinquished his duties at Lancashire last week, and starts his new job as England coach today, "on secondment" for the summer. Should all go well, he may keep it for as long as he proves himself capable. It is worth adding that rider: at the moment, nobody can pronounce confidently on his prospects, or England's.

Lloyd has already made a rallying call to the troops and talked of putting a smile back on the face of English cricket. These are clichés, of course, and there will be a few more until he has the measure of the job, but it would be wrong to assume that Lloyd deals solely in platitudes and banalities. He has a first-rate mind, and sticks close to Hamlet's advice: "More matter, less art". What is more, he does not exaggerate his own importance.

'If you're happy, show it'

Whereas Micky Stewart and Keith Fletcher were managers, and Raymond Illingworth became that bizarre creature, the "supremo", Lloyd is happy to be a coach, first and last. He is not an empire builder and not much of a politician. What interests him is cricket and cricketers, and he cannot wait to get cracking in a job that his career has prepared him for about as thoroughly as any career can.

At 49, after 30 years in the game as player, umpire, coach and media-man, he is popular and — the two do not always go together — highly regarded. Keith Andrew, the director of coaching at the National Cricket Association, described him ten years ago as "the finest coach of young players I have seen anywhere" and Lloyd has since added to that reputation.

Sensibly, he does not claim to have a wand, seeing himself more as an "enabler". A coach can do only so much, he believes. Players selected for Test cricket should not have to be nannied. "The players are responsible," he said. "I am accountable. Everybody has to be aware of that.

"First, I want them to be comfortable with me, to earn their respect. Then, I will work alongside them, individually, and listen to them." Yet he does not confuse tolerance with indulgence.

"There is a difference between underachieving and letting yourself down," he said. "Nobody will let me down twice."

Lloyd is not coming into the job cold. His association with Michael Atherton at Lancashire must count for something, and the pair have discussed England matters in the month since his appointment. Lloyd will not be drawn on what passed between them, but it is fair to say that Atherton now has an ally prepared to shield him from some aspects of the captain's job and share the load.

"In the past year, he has had to open the batting, captain the side in two difficult Test series, run the nets, deal with the press, do everything on his own, and he has only just turned 28," Lloyd said. "He is an outstanding Test opener and he is improving as a captain. I've told him 'I'm here to support you'.

"Obviously, the team ran out of petrol in the winter after staying with South Africa for almost five Tests, but people shouldn't forget that they showed excellent fighting qualities in coming from behind twice against West Indies last summer."

What Lloyd wants from the team this summer is "enthusiasm, enjoyment, commitment and imagination, which is really game awareness. Most of all, I want us to be vibrant, because there are people who pay good money to watch England perform."

Lloyd admits that he is an emotional man ("I have a temper that surfaces about three times a season") and he wants England to be emotional about their cricket, without overstepping the mark. "I have no problems with players enjoying their success, but I am aware of cricket etiquette," he said. "I don't like to see other players being 'sent off' — but, basically, if you're happy, show it."

'I want us to be vibrant'

Or, as he might have put it, if you are unhappy, do not show it. It is doubtful whether the England players realise yet the depth of feeling that accompanied their miserable slog through the World Cup. The cricket-watching public felt let down by their general manner and there is a lot of ground to claw back. Lloyd acknowledges this.

As the recent coach of the England under-19 team, Lloyd knows that there is talent out there. It just seems to have a habit of evaporating somewhere before it reaches Test level. The greatest need, as ever, is for bowlers who can really bowl, and the younger generation of pacemen can expect swift promotion if they impress. Only Dominic Cork is certain to begin the Test series against India in June and, by August, the attack may look very different.

"Richard Johnson, at Middlesex, has good pace. Glen Chapple, I know from Lancashire, has pace and movement," Lloyd said. "He just needs to pitch it up another yard. Alex Tudor, of Surrey, is a strapping lad, has good pace and a bit more. Paul Hutchison, at Yorkshire, bowls left arm, has a super action and swings the ball the business way, back into the batsman."

Lloyd will be watching these players at Chelmsford next week, when England A play The Rest. Then, he is off on a national tour, talking to players, captains and coaches for their impressions of Test candidates. "I want everybody with half an interest in cricket to rally round," he said. That will be easier when the team gives them a good reason to do so.

PAUL COUSINS

Lloyd comes to the England job well prepared

Cricket season stutters into life at the Parks amid debate about national team

First day covers bring stamp of summer

By Simon Barnes

YOU can ride round Oxford in an open-top bus with a "live English-speaking guide". Ladies and gentlemen, here at the Parks, they are playing the first game of the cricket season. Oxford University against Leicestershire. And here, on the street corner, we see the morris dancers . . .

Certainly I can elaborate, Mr Samura. This is a group of men clad in white, going through a rather tedious ritual, distantly related to fertility rites but whose meaning has long since been lost. No one cares, no one watches, but, for some reason, people like to think it still carries on. It is an aspect of the self-congratulatory quaintness that is part of the national *Zeitgeist*, and it is also quite a good excuse for a drink. Morris dancers, on the other hand, wear bells on their trousers.

I was asked to cover the first day of the cricket season. I put the phone down: instantly, the sky darkened, the rain fell and turned to sleet. By the morning of the match, the ground was covered in snow, but, Oates-like, I carried on, anticipating a collector's item, a scene of pure Englishness: snow stops play.

I arrived to a scene of still purer Englishness: a gorgeous spring day, the song of mistle thrush in the air, and a bunch of people hanging about in shell-suits because play was not actually possible. Pitch inspection at two. The jobsworths barked, the dog-walkers moved on.

Only the true believers stayed, to debate the topic of the moment: whither English cricket? For English cricket is at a crossroads. The trouble is, it has been at the same crossroads for about 25 years, or ever since the one-day game became part of the liturgy.

It has remained there, stalled, unwilling to move on, skewered by its own indecision, unable to make a choice that involves left or right, and half suspecting that the only real answer in an illegal U-turn. The drivers and the passengers rage on inside, while the vehicle grows obsolete around them.

All admit that England's performances in international cricket are poor and that it matters, but no one can agree how much. The counties are subsidised by international cricket, but they wield huge power over the way the game is played. The tail wags the dog, say the progressivists: all this must be changed.

Change things, and you throw out the baby with the bath water, say the traditionalists, fighting back metaphor for metaphor. This is the only fully professional cricket circuit in the world; we should be proud.

Yes, but nobody watches it. We must pull it down, two divisions, no University cricket, everything to serve the national side, get more like Australia, fight for pure excellence, pull out the branch-lines and let us run only the InterCity expresses.

Yet it is part of old England: teashops and jumble sales, duffle bags and Tizer, evensong and the fourteenth Sunday after Trinity. Never mind the state of English cricket: days like this are part of the state of England.

It is a battle of opposed sentimentalities. It is like the ancient debate over the city of Venice. Traditionalists always wanted Venice to be just as it is, or better, just as it was, with all trace of modern life excluded: not a *living* city but a *living* museum. The Futurists of the 1930s wanted to destroy the *palazzi* and use the rubble to fill in the canals. Thus they opposed sentimentality about the past with a still more luxuriant sentimentality about the future.

The great cricket debate has reached this level: an affair of polarised sentimentalities. Tourists find it charming. Visiting cricket-lovers find it moving, and view with reverence the gilded panels of teams long past, until they get chucked out — "Only players and officials in 'ere".

They sigh and leave and say, oh well, it doesn't really matter — and it doesn't, of course, unless you want England to win Test matches and to get somewhere near the pace of the modern game.

By two o'clock, I had spent too much money in Blackwell's and was back at the Parks watching a pitch inspection. I learnt that Leicestershire had won the toss and elected to bat. By three, the players were coming out with a clatter of spikes on the pavilion steps. A few minutes later, Pierre du Preez was running in to bowl.

The first ball of the season was delivered left arm round the wicket by a rugby Blue from Cape Town. It passed a generous distance outside the off stump and was politely ignored by Gregor Macmillan, the Oxford captain last year and now a county player. A triumph for the "system", then, as Macmillan scored the first run of the season with a steer to third man. He was also the first wicket of the season, bowled for eight when du Preez was discourteous enough to bowl a straight one.

So, Mr Samura, are you clearer about what is going on? You know all about the importance of culture and ritual in a society, surely? Think of this as an event caught forever between sumo wrestling and the parish fête. Leicestershire were 139 for four at close of play.

After a delayed start, Oxford University and Leicestershire perform an annual ritual, opening the cricket season watched by a curious few. Photograph: Gill Allen

LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings

G I Macmillan b du Preez	8
V J Wells run out	57
B F Smith not out	56
D L Maddy c du Preez b Malik	2
*J J Whitaker lbw b Thomson	0
†P A Nixon not out	10
Extras (lb 2, w 2)	4
Total (4 wkts)	139

C C Remy, G J Parsons, A R K Pierson, D J Millns and A D Mullally to bat.

FALL: 1-14, 2-115, 3-121, 4-123

BOWLING: du Preez 11-0-35-0, Thomson 13-6-23-1; Wagh 2-0-7-0; Mather 9-1-35-0; Malik 11-3-31-1; Khan 1-0-6-0

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: *C M Gupta, I J Sutcliffe, A C Ridley, M E D Jarrett, G Khan, H S Malik, M A Wagh, †J N Batty, R Thomson, D P Mather, S P du Preez.

Umpires: A G T Whitehead and N G Cowley

Cronje and Kirsten leave India reeling

SOUTH AFRICA, having crushed Pakistan by 143 runs in their first Sharjah Cup match, brushed aside India by 80 runs in their second game yesterday, despite making a poor start to the one hundredth one-day match played at the desert venue.

They were 56 for three in the tenth over, only for Hansie Cronje to join Gary Kirsten, the opening batsman, in a partnership of 154 from 155 balls. Kirsten stayed until the 43rd over for his 106: Cronje hit three sixes in his innings of 90 from 82 balls as South Africa reached 288 for six.

India then lost Sachin Tendulkar for two in the sixth over, from a mistimed pull off the bowling of Fanie de Villiers.

Mohammad Azharuddin and Sanjay Manjrekar provided some stability by adding 82 for the fifth wicket before both fell in successive overs, while trying to charge Pat Symcox, the off spinner.

On Saturday, with Daryll Cullinan leading the way with 110, South Africa piled up 314 for three against Pakistan and then restricted them to 171 for seven.

Sri Lanka, the World Cup winners, beat West Indies by 35 runs in a one-day international in Trinidad on Saturday. Aggressive displays from Asanka Gurusinha (59) and Sanath Jayasuriya (46) enabled Sri Lanka to reach 251 and they then bowled and fielded superbly to limit West Indies to 216 for nine.

Brian Lara, with a typically fluent 71, and Phil Simmons (45), his Trinidad and Tobago compatriot, threatened to carry West Indies to victory during a third-wicket stand of 116 from 123 balls, but, once they were dismissed in consecutive overs, Sri Lanka took complete control.

In Grenada, Cameron Cuffy and Nixon McLean, the fast bowlers, shared seven wickets as the New Zealanders were forced to follow on against West Indies President's XI.

The touring side were dismissed for 113 in reply to 454, but made a better fist of their second innings, reaching 105 for two.

Scoreboards, page 34

The original paper.
DELIVERY 1.
The firzt and still the bezt.

Oliver Holt on a large crowd, a big man and a huge disappointment for the Monarchs

Claymores leave The Fridge out in the cold

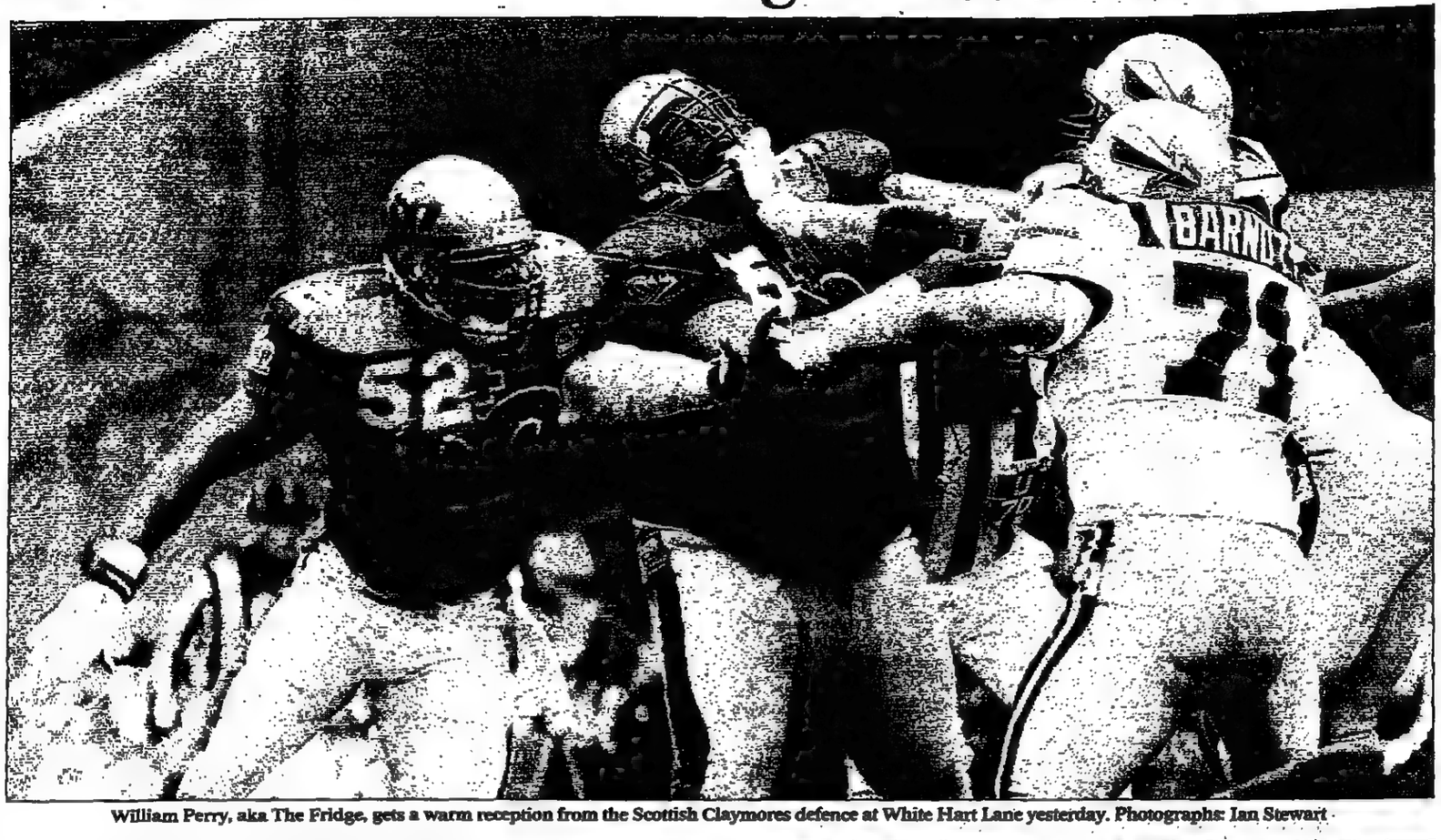
IT TAKES a special kind of guy to blend his gargantuan 350lb frame into the background, but William Perry managed it. On his long-awaited World League American football debut for the London Monarchs yesterday, the man who was once the most famous player in the United States took the field just twice in the first half. If he really is still The Fridge, he could do with a good defrosting.

Perry's role was expanded in the second half of the Monarchs' 24-21 defeat at the hands of Gavin Hastings's Scottish Claymores at White Hart Lane, and his number of plays leapt well into double figures, but if it is possible for a man of his size to be peripheral, he achieved it. When the loudspeaker system blasted everyone out of their seats with the Rolling Stones singing *Start Me Up*, it could have been a personal plea from the Big Man.

At times, it seemed that Perry, a nose tackle who was a celebrated member of the feared Chicago Bears defence of the late Eighties, was having trouble dragging his bulk on to the pitch. When he broke into a slow trot, it looked awkward and lumbering, as if he was in pain, and on each of the two second-half occasions that he made a tackle, he retired to the touchline immediately to recover from his exertions.

Perhaps it was just that the expectations that had been heaped upon him were too high, or maybe the fact that the Claymores double-teamed him. The game, the Monarchs' first at the beginning of the fourth season of the World League, had been sold almost exclusively on his bloodthirsty reputation for sacking quarterbacks and what he fondly called "smash-mouth football". "Any refrigerator can store mincemeat," the advertising slogans read. "This one makes it."

By the time he took the field to the strains of *Ice, Ice Baby*, by Vanilla Ice, and performed a little jig on the half-way line, Perry had already done most of his work. More than 16,000 people made the journey to north London, an improvement on the Monarchs' average attendance of around 10,000 during a mediocre season last year. Whether they can retain their new followers remains to be seen.



William Perry, aka The Fridge, gets a warm reception from the Scottish Claymores defence at White Hart Lane yesterday. Photographs: Ian Stewart

With Hastings kicking extra points — the conversions for touchdowns — and the England versus Scotland element given extra spice by its coincidence with the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Culloden, this match was bound to be the easiest for the marketing men to sell. Matches against teams like the Amsterdam Admirals and Rhein Fire may be less attractive to potential converts.

If Perry's recruitment to the Monarchs' cause has been greeted with some well-founded cynicism, Hastings's commitment has been largely unquestioned due to his ten-year, 61-cap career in Scottish rugby union. His PR company are marketing consultants for the Claymores, but his role yesterday was unimpeachable, if brief.

The ball touched his boot just six times, a small fraction of the number that it would in rugby, but each conversion, including one to take the game into overtime with three seconds remaining, was unerring in its accuracy. His three kick-offs, if a little shallow, were perfectly acceptable. Anything more demanding, like the overtime field goal that won the game for the Claymores, was left to another kicker, Paul McCallum.

The rest of the players, who laboured under typical Anglo-Scottish names like Yo Murphy, Horrace Morris and Darren Studstill, put on an entertaining show that does bode well for the future of the league. It may not have been of the highest quality, rich in fumbles and interceptions, but there was some fine quarterback passing, too, and once the players, rejects from or aspirants to the National Football League (NFL), get to know each other better, the gremlins are likely to disappear.

"When I took the kick to try to tie the game right at the end of normal time, it was the most nervous I have ever been, and that includes any kick I ever took in rugby," Hastings said. "If I missed that kick, we lost the game. It was as simple as that. It is not difficult to play a limited part, but your concentration levels have to be kept high at all times. It was fantastic out there and they are a great bunch of guys.

"I enjoyed every minute of it, though. I think it was good value for money. There's a long way to go until the World Bowl in the summer, but if we keep playing like that we must have a chance. That is one game down and ten to go."

☐ Frankfurt Galaxy made a successful start to the defence of their World League title on Saturday with a 27-21 win over Rhein Fire. The crowd of 32,000 at Düsseldorf saw Steve Peuller, Galaxy's former Dallas Cowboys quarterback, complete 24 of 35 passes, including two for touchdowns.

Hastings, later successful with six conversions for the Claymores, gets the ball rolling

Radley's final pair close door on luckless Malvern

By Mel Webb

IN ONE of the closest finishes in recent times, Radley played cool and incisive golf to win the Public Schools' Golfing Society's Halford Hewitt Cup for the first time with a 3-2 victory over Malvern at Royal Cinque Ports, Deal, yesterday.

For Malvern, the perennial bridesmaids, it was yet another disappointment. This was their sixth appearance in the final, and their sixth defeat. Good losers they undoubtedly were, but, try as they might, they could not prevent a collective cup of woe from overflowing when it was all over.

Malvern had reached the final with a series of convincing victories — they twice won 5-0 and dropped only three points in winning their three other matches. The did not drop more than 1½ points in any match until they came up against Radley.

Radley, who along the way had disposed of Charterhouse, the most successful side in the history of the competition, and Tonbridge, three times the winners since 1990, made a splendid start in the final when Tom Etridge and James Martin-Jenkins beat Sebastian Blanchet and Hendrey Aldrige 4 and 3 in the top match, but it was nip and tuck after that.

Clive Edginton and Ian Timberlake levelled things with a one-hole victory over Hugh Mackeown and Mark Walker, only for Radley to nose ahead again through Chris Ball and Simon Peck.

Jeremy James and Bruce Strather, of Malvern, then levelled the match with a 3 and 2 win over Angus Chilvers and Richard Palmer, helped by Radley's loss of the 16th when Chilvers forgot to replace his ball in the correct place on the green after moving his marker to allow James an unimpeded passage to the hole.

Thus it all depended on the last match, in which Peter Mathieson, who this year passed 100 matches for Malvern in this competition, and his young partner William Beeson, seemed to have things tied up when they were two up through the turn against Will Bailey and Nick Gareth Jones.

The Radley pair had played some jittery golf on the front nine but gradually clawed their way back, taking the lead for the first time on the 17th.

At the 18th, Bailey played a fine second shot from a fluffy lie to the left fringe and Gareth Jones virtually closed the door on Malvern with a putt lagged to threee feet.

A courageous putt from upwards of 20 feet by Beeson put some pressure on Bailey, but he held his nerve to sink the putt to halve the hole and complete a famous one-hole win.

RESULTS: Third Round: Radley 4 Charterhouse 1; Tonbridge 3½ Watson's 1½, Dulwich 3½ Bradfield 1½; Forest 3 Wellington 2; Mill Hill 3 Oundle 2; Malvern 5 Haileybury 0. Fourth round: Epsom 3 Merchiston 2, Radley 3 Tonbridge 2; Dulwich 3 Forest 2; Malvern 5 Mill Hill 0. Semi-finals: Radley 3½ Epsom 1½; Malvern 4½ Dulwich ½. Final (Radley names first): T J Etridge and J T A Martin-Jenkins beat S Blanchet and H Aldridge 4 and 3, H N Mackeown and M N Walker lost to C L A Egdington and I K Timberlake 1 hole; C J Ball and S J E Peck beat J N S Lowe and A Coleman 3 and 1; A D Chilvers and R H Palmer lost to R D James and P G Strather 3 and 2, W E S Bailey and M N Gareth Jones beat W W Beeson and P G Mathieson 1 hole. Result: Radley 3 Malvern 2.

Pakistan end Britain's proud run

Great Britain 0
Pakistan 2

From Sydney Friskin in Atlanta

GREAT Britain lost a proud record with a 2-0 defeat by Pakistan in the six-nations men's hockey tournament here on Saturday. In the run-up to this troubled event, Britain had been unbeaten in 18 international matches.

The problems that had dogged the tournament since it began on Thursday continued unabated when heavy rain in the morning destroyed every hope of staging the match on the newly-laid artificial turf pitch at the Clarke University Stadium.

Against their wishes, the teams were forced to play on the practice pitch and consequently approached their task with caution.

The match began badly for Britain with Pakistan going ahead in the second minute. A through pass from Tahir Zaman, the inside right, was picked up by Asif Bajwa, the outside right, whose angled shot took Mason by surprise.

From midway in the first half, Britain began to push forward, but, as nothing tangible had been achieved, Pearn was sent on as a replacement for Robert Thompson at centre forward.

With Britain improving their workrate Pakistan's defence was kept busy and, shortly before half-time, the Pakistanis were penalised for obstruction, conceding the first short corner of the match. Giles came on from the bench but was deprived of a shot by Usman, the right half, who was quick off the line.

Rain soaked the pitch during the interval, worsening the playing conditions, and Britain made more substitutions, with Shaw being thrust into the attack and Soma Singh sent on at left half.

The greater threat, however, always came from Pakistan, who missed a couple of easy chances.

Britain persevered and forced three short corners; on the first two occasions, the hit from the line was not stopped and when Giles was eventually permitted a shot it was well saved by Manzoor Ahmed. Two minutes before the end Britain's fate was sealed by the young Pakistani substitutes. Mohammed Sawar centred from the right and Raza Aleem, on the left wing, scored.

Dhanraj Pillay scored all three goals for India in the 3-0 defeat of Argentina.

GREAT BRITAIN: S Mason (Reading); J Wyatt (Reading), J Halls (Old Loughtonians), G Fordham (Hounslow), K Talfner (Cannock), S Hazlitt (Hounslow), C Mayer (Cannock), J Lisiett (Teddington), R Thompson (Hounslow). R Garcia (Polo Club Barcelona), N Thompson (Old Loughtonians) Subs used: M Pearn (Reading), C Giles (Hevent), Soma Singh (Hounslow), J Shaw (Southgate)
PAKISTAN: Manzoor Ahmed Danish Kaleem, Naveed Alam, Mohammed Usman, Khalid Mohammed, Asif Bajwa, Tahir Zaman, Kamran Ashraf, Mohammad Shahbaz, Asif Khan. Subs used: Mohammed Sarwar, Raza Aleem, Rana Mujhid.
Umpires: W Cerbat (Argentina) and S Horgan (United States).

Women fail to impress

GREAT Britain's women got the chance to show their hockey skills to the nation on Saturday with a televised match against Holland at Milton Keynes (Alix Ramsay writes). The BBC has promised to broadcast British achievements in Atlanta if the team reaches the latter stages of the Olympic tournament, but, judging by this lacklustre 1-0 defeat, the schedules should not be troubled.

It was the second defeat by the Dutch in three days and, while 1-0 sounds more respectable than the 5-2 thrashing on Thursday, it was hardly a confidence booster. Britain managed only one serious shot on goal, a flick from a penalty corner after 11 minutes from Karen Brown.

Despite enjoying the greater share of possession, the Britain women did not seem to know what to do with it, especially in front of the Dutch goal. The few crosses into the circle found nobody on the end of them and Jenny Cardwell, the team manager, bemoaned the lack of commitment displayed by the Britain forwards. "We need some duckers and divers in there," she said.

Not that the Dutch were swarming around the home goal, either. Jo Thompson, the goalkeeper, was more then a match for them, but not even she could fend off a move involving Ellen Kuipers and Suzan van der Wielen that set up Wietske de Ruiter to place her shot after 54 minutes.

The squad for Saturday has now been joined by Kathy Johnson, Jo Mould and Tina Cullen for a two-week training trip to Atlanta for games against Spain and the United States. By the time they return, the players will know exactly who has won a place for the Olympics.

Certainly, Cullen's confidence is riding high. On Saturday, she scored the goal against Doncaster that won Hightown, from Liverpool, their first league title. With nine goals in the European Cup Winner's Cup last weekend and 13 in the league — making her the premier division's top scorer — Cullen could be precisely the ducker and diver that Cardwell is looking for.

Britain reap reward for new discipline

From Norman de Mesquita in Eindhoven

GREAT Britain's ice-hockey players had a more than satisfactory weekend in pool B of the world championships. After disappointing defeats against Switzerland and Latvia, successive wins over Poland and Holland brought four much-needed points and virtually eliminated the danger of relegation to pool C.

Vitally, in both weekend matches, discipline was much improved and there was a drastic reduction in the number of penalties that had cost Britain dearly earlier in the tournament. Indeed, three of the four goals in the 4-2 win over Poland on Saturday came when Poland players were sitting in the penalty box.

Doug Mason, the Canadian-born coach of the Dutch team, had said before the match yesterday that he felt that his team's best chance lay in taking advantage of British penalties. Unfortunately for his game plan, Britain led 2-0 at the end of the first period through Paul Adey and Patrick Scott and were out of reach at 5-1 — with goals from Merv Priest, Steve Moria and Simon Hunt — at the end of the second.

Peter Woods, the Britain coach, was obviously delighted with the two wins, but the day off today will be spent continuing to try to eliminate some of the bad habits that the players get into during their domestic season.

"It was a great result," he said. "I was a bit apprehensive it being our fourth game in five days. We did play a bit more of a complete game. We have a day off now and a chance to regroup. We are happy with where we stand right now and hopefully we can progress from there."

Mason was honest enough to admit that things could have been worse for his side had it not been for Honoré Loos, in goal, but for whom it might have been 5-0 at the end of the first period.

Britain's next game is tomorrow against Japan and that is likely to provide another win that would leave them still in with an outside chance of a bronze medal, although there are still some difficult games to come.

It is encouraging that so many players have contributed to the two weekend wins and, while Tim Cranston scored three goals in the two games, including a final effort from a penalty shot yesterday, with six other players on the scoresheet, it was certainly a team effort.

Haining lifts Olympic hopes

PETER HAINING, aiming for Olympic selection and 1½ stone heavier than when he won his third lightweight world rowing title last summer, regained his Scullers Head crown on Saturday (Mike Rasewell writes).

Racing into a tough headwind from the Mortlake start, Haining moved steadily away from Guy Pooley, his fellow Olympic aspirant. Conditions were appalling from Chiswick Eyot to Hammersmith, causing Pooley to catch two "boat-stopping crabs" at St Paul's, while Haining's only apparent concession to the waves was a drop in rate from 31 to 30, although he said afterwards: "It was a nightmare trying to keep my forearms loose. It was like taking one step forward and two back."

Conditions improved as the two-hour race unfurled and the tide fell, producing some spectacular rises for later competitors, including Mark Kettle, who moved from 162nd to second and Chris Greenway, who moved to fifth from 265th, to win the novice honours.

Tish Reid, Great Britain's Olympic sculler in 1992 and aiming for another Olympic vest in Atlanta, was the fastest woman of the day, but Sue Appelboom, a lightweight finalist last summer and starting eightieth, was pipped for the lightweight class by Nicky Dale, a fellow international, who started 316th.

The Cambridge men and women crews won re-runs of their Boat Races against Oxford at Lake Lanier, Georgia, on Saturday. In a new Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, Harvard regatta, the Cambridge women were the only Britons to achieve a 100 per cent record with two wins. Overall, however, Cambridge were edged into second place by Harvard.

Results, page 34

Defeat costs dear for Loughran

BRITISH boxing suffered yet another blow on Saturday (Srikumar Sen writes). After the world title defeats in recent weeks of Nigel Benn and Frank Bruno, Eamonn Loughran lost his World Boxing Organisation welterweight title. He was demolished in 51 seconds by José Luis Lopez, a little-known Mexican, at the Everton Park Sports Centre.

Loughran's failure to stand up to two rights and a follow-through uppercut left ITV reeling as well. As the result of a dispute over the light-flyweight world title bout between Jake Matlala, the champion, from South Africa, and Paul Weir, from Scotland, ITV could not show the bout, and was left with a 40-minute hole to fill. They responded by showing a contest between Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas Hearns.

The defeat has lost Loughran $1 million (about £645,000), which he would have earned from contests with Yoriboy Campas, of Mexico, and Pernell Whitaker, the World Boxing Council champion. Lougran will now go either for the British title or meet Michael Carruth for the Irish championship. Weir, who was stopped in the tenth round of a one-sided match, may try for the European flyweight title.

The dispute with Barry Hearn, over advertising on Matlala's trunks, could reinforce fears about the future of boxing on ITV. Hearn said: "I gave a £100,000 fight to ITV for no extra money, and viewers in Scotland could not turn on and see their man."

Gary Newbon, of ITV, said: "We have a clear policy about no advertising on shorts in this country. The show turned out a disaster for us.

Knowles makes most of chance in spotlight

From Richard Eaton in Herning, Denmark

PETER KNOWLES, so often in the shadow of Darren Hall, the eight-times national champion, emerged into the limelight by unexpectedly beating Jeroen van Dijk, the world No 23, to hasten England's 4-1 victory over Holland yesterday and ensure that his country will contest one of the medals on the final day of the team event at the European badminton championships today.

Knowles, the England No 2, was brought in to lighten Hall's load during a day in which countries in the top groups had to play twice. Knowles responded with a 15-11, 15-9 success against an opponent who had created a surprise on the opening day by beating Poul Erik Hoyer, the All-England champion. Against Knowles, Van Dijk looked as if he was suffering from the aftermath of that career-best win.

He was sluggish and, after losing an 11-7 lead in the first game, appeared resigned to defeat in the second. Nonetheless, Knowles took his chance in lively fashion, hitting flat and fast, changing the direction of his attacks and disguising his overhead drops well.

His success put England 2-0 up and the winning lead was completed in the women's doubles by Joanne Wright and Julie Bradbury.

Earlier, Bradbury and Simon Archer had struggled in the opening encounter, trailing 10-7 in the final game to Ron Michels and Erica van den Heuvel. However, the mixed doubles gold medal favourites for the individual event recovered to win 15-9, 8-15, 15-10.

During this match, it was evident that Archer still has problems with the ankle ligaments that hindered him in the All-England final last month, and there was worse injury news to follow.

Nick Ponting, the 1994 All-England mixed doubles champion, will take no part in the tournaments because of a knee problem. This will damage England's chances of medals in the indidivual events, in which he and Wright had been seeded fourth. Ponting and Julian Robertson had been seeded in the five to eight category in the men's doubles.

Denmark, the favourites, scored their second win, 5-0 over Scotland, and Sweden, the holders, achieved their second success, 5-0 over Poland. Both will be contesting medals today.

THE TIMES Midland Private Banking NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHALLENGE

LATEST QUALIFIERS FOR AREA FINALS

Mens: D. Craik & G. Seaver (Frilford Heath G.C.), S. Booth & P. Bellamy (Burghill Valley G.C.)

Ladies: T. Evers & E. Muggs (Frilford Heath G.C.), L. Hills & S. Record, E. Rawlins & M. Whitby (University of Newcastle), P. Jenkins & M. Price (Burghill Valley G.C.), M. Bellamy & G. Dewey (Chew Valley B.C.)

Mixed: M. & P. Lynch, R. & J. Mitchell (Frilford Heath G.C.), E. Carter & F. Ladler (Chew Valley B.C.), R. Proops & J. Featherstone, M. Whedbee & F. Renne (S.W. London B.C.)

FOR DETAILS OF THE CHALLENGE CALL: 0181-942 9506 or fax to: 0181-942 9569

LACOSTE

'If you die, we don't get into trouble', the bungee jumpers told **Perry Cleveland-Peck**

Blasted up into the sky

JULIAN HERBERT

At his wits' end: "The crane stopped about 300ft above London and the gate was opened. After five attempts and around ten minutes, I stopped my blubbering and let go"

SPORT FOR ALL

At ten yards per second, you accelerate towards the ground — you see the whole of London rise up from the skyline, then Chelsea Bridge and then the Thames. You cannot shout. You cannot move. You simply hang there.

At last the cord around your ankles absorbs your fall. Only then, as you are fired back into the sky, do you realise that you may actually survive this. Perhaps, if you still have the capacity, you will ask yourself why people queue, like lemmings, to take part in this peculiar sport.

In a moment of rash bravado, I accepted a commission to write an article on bungee jumping. I thought it would be a simple matter, after all, any fool can throw him or herself off a crane with nothing but a length of elastic for support. I even thought it might be pleasant.

So, with a nervous constitution, I arrived, one recent Sunday morning, at the appropriately named Adrenalin Village on Chelsea Bridge. Jon Nicholls, the proprietor, greeted me with a firm handshake and a disclaimer. "If you die, we don't get into trouble," he kindly summarised for me.

Nicholls felt that I should be introduced to the world of adrenalin with a bungee catapult. This is a reverse bungee — you start from the ground and are blasted into the sky. With a harness on, I was attached to a type of trigger mechanism that held me to the ground while the cord was stretched to the crane overhead.

Around this point in the exercise I began to grasp the magnitude of my imminent fate. "Are you ready?" I was asked (how can you possibly be ready?). "Not really," I replied. With that I was fired 280ft into the sky.

The ground simply drops away from you. The whole experience is so alien that it is hard to believe that you are really there. In a matter of about a second, I found myself extremely high and rather alone above Chelsea Bridge. My friends, who had come to watch an idiot scare himself to death, were mere specks on the ground.

As your immense momentum peaks, a dreadful sense of weightlessness comes over you. It is like going over a hump in the road, at speed, when you don't expect it. That sort of "ooh" feeling, only worse. I felt my testicles in the back of my throat. You hang in the sky for a moment, which seems to last forever, and then you begin your mind-numbing, earth-bound descent.

You cannot shout. You hang there

After I had bounced up and down like a Yo-Yo, I was caught and brought back to glorious terra firma. I was shaking. I couldn't speak. Someone, very far away, was asking me how I felt, which I remember thinking was a somewhat stupid question.

I had my harness taken off and was prepared for my bungee jump. A whole series of thoughts crossed my mind: "How much can one person take? Have there been any tests?" For the first time in my life I entertained the serious possibility of a heart attack.

"For the purposes of the picture, you are going out backwards," *The Times* photographer said as I had straps fixed to my ankles and another harness placed around my waist. I was not entirely sure whether I would be going out at all but he assured me he would assist me in every way he could — how very obliging.

I was told that bungee cord is made of the same latex material as knicker elastic and condoms. It occurred to me, as the instructor ran through a series of checks, that I had known both to break. This did nothing to reassure me. "Have you got any jewellery on?" my instructor asked. "How much do you weigh?" After each answer he would stamp my hand with what I later discovered was an airmail ink stamp. I believe it is used to keep the uninitiated's mind occupied.

The crane stopped and the gate was opened. London in all its splendour lay before me — I was not enjoying the view.

"Just stick your heels over the edge and lean back. When you're ready, let go," the instructor said. I tried to think rationally about what I was about to do — I failed. There is nothing *rational* about bungee jumping — you just have to put your fate in the hands of the gods and do it. After five attempts and about ten minutes, I stopped my blubbering and let go.

Other than developing a fear of heights, I have since come to the conclusion that people can't bungee jump for pleasure. Like a phal curry or Mount Everest they do it not because it is enjoyable but just because it is there to experience.

"Bungee jumping originated on the Pentecost Island near New Zealand," Nicholls said. "The islanders would jump using tree vines in order to celebrate a good yam harvest." The first UK bungee jump was performed illegally in 1979 off the Clifton Suspension Bridge. The sport took off, as it were, commercially in Australia and New Zealand in the mid-Eighties and then came to Britain.

An international bungee competition, The Extreme Games, takes place each year in the US. Competitors are judged on various aerial manoeuvres, similar to high diving. The qualifying rounds for this year's competition were held at Adrenalin Village over the Easter weekend.

● *Adrenalin Village: 0171-720 9496; to find a jump in your area phone British Elastic Rope Sports Association: 01865 311179.*

The author puts his best feet forward back on terra firma

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Playing simple methods, if your partner overcalls 1 NT, it is usual to play a response of Two Clubs as natural and weak; to inquire for majors, you have to bid the opponents' suit. What, though, is the meaning of a delayed bid of the opponents' suit? That came up on this hand, from the 1996 Malta Bridge Festival.

Dealer South **Game all** **Match-pointed pairs**

North: ♠J884 ♥AKQ ♦KQ97 ♣73

West: ♠A ♥E5 ♦AJ642 ♣AQ652

East: ♠9532 ♥J1094 ♦8 ♣K984

South: ♠KQ107 ♥8732 ♦1083 ♣J10

S	W	N	E
Pass	1 D	1 NT	Pass
Pass	2 C	Pass	Pass
2 D	All Pass		

Contract: Two Diamonds by South **Lead: Ace of clubs**

David Kendrick, my partner (South), intended his Two Diamond bid to ask me to choose between the major suits. I interpreted it as a desire to play in diamonds. In the abstract, I think that is a reasonable view, but here, my diamond holding should have guided me to the correct conclusion. West was marked with at least five diamonds when he backed in with Two Clubs, and so as my partner could have, at most, four. He must have intended Two Diamonds to be for take-out.

At trick two, West mistakenly continued with the ace of spades; he followed with a club to East's king and ruffed the spade return. Kendrick ruffed the club continuation in hand, and ran the eight of diamonds. He then played another spade, ruffed by West. Now, declarer was in control — he ruffed the next club in hand, crossed to the queen of hearts and played the king of diamonds. All West could make was the ace of diamonds. The defence made the ace of spades, two ruffs, the diamond ace and two club tricks, for +100.

I was on my toes in the post-mortem. After congratulating my partner on his deft handling of the 5-1 trump break, I pointed out that Two Spades also goes off — the defence get the ace of diamonds and two ruffs, along with three tricks in the black suits. On top of that, had I removed Two Diamonds to Two Spades, East would have gone on to Three Clubs and scored at least 110.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Men v Machines

After Kasparov's epic battle against IBM's Deep Blue computer, great interest has been aroused in trials of strength between human and silicon brains. The Aegon tournament, in progress in The Hague, Holland, sees a massed field of computers battling against human masters and grandmasters.

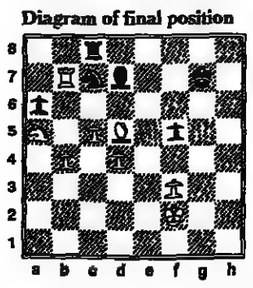
Jon Speelman, of Great Britain, is one of the early leaders. In this game, he follows the established anti-computer strategy of minimising tactical opportunities and stressing strategic contours that the silicon brains find difficult to grasp.

White: Jon Speelman
Black: Arthur
Aegon, Man v Machine
April 1996

Queen's Pawn Opening

1	d4	d5
2	c3	Nf6
3	Bf4	c6
4	e3	Qb6
5	Qb3	Qxb3
6	axb3	Bf5
7	Nd2	Nbd7
8	b4	e6
9	h3	Be7
10	Nb3	a6
11	Nf3	Nh5
12	Bh2	0-0
13	Be2	Nhf6
14	Nfd2	Ra7
15	0-0	Rfa8
16	Na5	Ne4
17	Ndb3	Bh4
18	Nc5	Ndxc5
19	bxc5	a5
20	Bxe5	Nd2
21	Rfd1	Ne4
22	g3	Bd8
23	g4	Bd7
24	f3	Ng5
25	Kg2	b6
26	cxb6	Bxb6
27	b4	f6
28	Bh2	Ra8
29	Bg1	h5
30	Bc3	hxg4
31	hxg4	Nf7
32	Nb3	Raa8
33	c4	Bc8
34	c5	Bc7
35	Na5	Bd7
36	Bh2	Bxh2
37	Kxh2	Rb8
38	Rab1	Ra8
39	Ra1	Ng5
40	Kg3	Kf7
41	Bc2	g6
42	e4	Ne8
43	Rbd1	Rb8
44	exd5	cxd5
45	Bb3	Nc7
46	Rh1	Kg7
47	Rd2	f5
48	gxf5	gxf5
49	Rg2	Kf6
50	Rh6+	Kg7
51	Rgh2	Rg8
52	Kf2	Kf8
53	Rb6	Ra8
54	Rh7	Rg7
55	Rxg7	Kxg7
56	Rb7	Rc8
57	Bxd5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

YAGER
a. A coarse weave
b. A Prussian sergeant
c. A rifle

VACKY
a. Crazy Yiddish
b. An evacuee
c. A cow

SOLVITUR AMBULANDO
a. Practical proof
b. Cure by exercise
c. An ingenious paradox

TENDU
a. Raw fish dish
b. Stretched
c. A ceremonial welcome

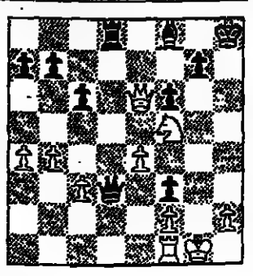
Answers on page 42

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This week, I continue my homage to Alexander Alekhine, the great attacking world champion who died 50 years ago. This position is from the game Blumenfeld — Alekhine, Moscow, 1908. The danger signal for White here is the advanced Black pawn on f3. This pawn constantly helps to creates threats against the white king. How did Black exploit these.

Solution on page 42



THE GREATEST — CHANNEL FOUR TELEVISION — THE TIMES

TUNE IN AND CHOOSE BRITAIN'S GREATEST SPORTS STAR

Tonight, Channel 4's *The Greatest* gives you another chance to vote for the Greatest British sporting hero of them all. And your vote will count in more ways than one, because it could win you a pair of tickets to the European football championship or even the top prize of a trip to the Olympic Games in Atlanta with Daley Thompson.

The main aim of the 12-part series is to bring some degree of scientific method to the comparisons so that a motor racing driver can be judged against a cricketer, a jockey against a footballer. You probably won't be able to put aside your prejudices completely - we all have our heroes, and our favourite sports - but *The Greatest* will open your mind to achievements and personalities you may not otherwise have considered worthy of greatness.

The cases for Jackie Stewart, Linford Christie, Bobby Moore, Torvill and Dean, Mary Rand, Ian Botham, Barry John and Nick Faldo of the 20 shortlisted have been stated. Each week two contenders are examined and their relative merits discussed by the panel of Frances Edmonds, author and broadcaster, Danny Kelly, editor of *Total Sport*, and a guest celebrity (tonight it is Kriss Akabusi). Chairing the debate is Gordon Kennedy. The final show will give the results and declare The Greatest. *The Greatest* is screened on Channel 4 on Mondays at 8.30pm and repeated on Saturdays at 10am. The sporting stars under examination tonight are Steve Ovett and Bobby Charlton. *Times* writers give their appreciations to help your judgments.

TONIGHT'S CONTENDERS

STEVE OVETT

Many great runners have hunted records and titles in pairs. There are few better examples of how an athlete can be pushed to higher feats through intense rivalry with a contemporary than the case of Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett. Their pursuit of medals and times was further stimulated by the arrival of Steve Cram, the third of the trio of outstanding British runners.

Ovett's successes in championships were outstanding but they would probably have been even more impressive if he had not competed in such a glorious era of international middle-distance running. Ovett's victories were certainly hard-earned. Before Coe became a force, Ovett had looked the supreme 1500 metres runner, particularly at the 1977 World Cup, when he streaked away from the world's best runners. Although he was not as intrinsically fast as some of his contemporaries, he possessed an explosive kick which could win a race in a few yards.

Ovett was a better at 1500 metres than 800 metres, in which he never set a world record. Curiously his Olympic title in 1980 was earned at the shorter distance, with Coe winning the 1500 metres. Ovett was very much a runner's runner. He competed in a wide range of events, including cross-country, and trained with determined concentration.

When Ovett was at his peak, he looked like a stag in flight. He possessed an aura in athletics which few have ever equalled.

BOBBY CHARLTON

Courage has been defined as grace under pressure. Bobby Charlton epitomised grace, whether under pressure or not, throughout his illustrious career from an all too brief glided youth to statesmanlike maturity. His high style as one of English football's greatest talents for Manchester United and England were matched by his impeccable disciplinary record. He began as a goalscoring "wunderkind", winning his first League Championship medal in the great Manchester United team which was destroyed at Munich in 1958. Charlton survived, becoming a man overnight as he carried the new team to Wembley on his slim shoulders, and announcing his arrival on the international scene with a typical goal against Scotland at Hampden Park, a volley which flew into the net in a blur. There was inevitably a reaction, and for a time his career stalled, but by the mid-Sixties he had established his permanent niche as an attacking midfield player for England and United, playing a key role in their greatest triumphs, England's World Cup win in 1966, when he scored twice in the semi-final, and United's European Cup victory two years later, when he scored the first goal. He was England's leading scorer with 49 goals in 106 games, and United's with 199 in the League, but as well as the blistering shooting, those sweeping crossfield passes, surging runs and devastating body swerves stay in the mind. He retired in 1973 after 17 years in the first division; a year later United were relegated.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

You will be asked to score each sports personality in each of five categories. Each category carries a maximum of 20 points, so the total scores you give are out of a maximum of 100. The categories are:

Achievement - for honours won and overall record

Dominance - for quality of opposition, longevity and domination of peers

Style - for performance, technique, sportsmanship and image

Fortitude - for coping with pressure, will to win, self control and sporting intelligence

Impact - charisma and transcendence

THE PRIZES

Carlsberg — Euro 96 — OFFICIAL BEER

Each week, Channel 4 and *The Times* will each be giving away a pair of tickets to the European football championship, courtesy of Carlsberg, the official beer of Euro 96, to the person who manages to match the average scores for both of that week's profiled sports personalities. In the event of a tie, a draw will take place. Ten runners up will each win a signed copy of Daley Thompson's book accompanying the series, *The Greatest* (Boxtree, £14.99).

At the end of the series, all the weekly winners will have the chance to win the greatest prize of all - a trip to the Olympics with Daley Thompson.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR VOTE

By telephone: You can call *The Greatest* phoneline, on **0891 66 55 44**

Lines are open from 9pm until midnight tomorrow and from 10am on Saturday, when the show is repeated, until midnight on Sunday. Calls cost 39p cheap rate, 49p at other times.

By post: complete *The Times* entry form and send it to *The Greatest* Week 5, PO Box 1413, London N1 8HY to arrive by noon on Friday.

	Achievement	Dominance	Style	Fortitude	Impact	TOTAL
STEVE OVETT	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts
BOBBY CHARLTON	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____

Daytime telephone _____

Proof of posting is not proof of receipt. Usual Times competition rules apply.

☐ Tick if you prefer not to receive further information from Channel 4 or The Times

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

CAPE TOWN: ASA Engen meeting: Men: 100m: D Braithwaite (GB) 10.39sec. 200m: J Regis (GB) 20.61. 400m: I Thomas (GB) 45.66. 800m: 1, M van Heerden (SA) 1min 44.57sec; 2, D Strang (GB) 1:46.41. 110m hurdles: 1, C Jackson (GB) 13.30sec; 2, A Jarrett (GB) 13.33. 400m hurdles: L Herbert (SA) 49.89sec. Pole vault: T Lobinger (Ger) 5.81m. Javelin: J Zelezny (Cz) 87.86.

BATTERSEA PARK: Belgrave open meeting: Hammer: S Bown (Haringey) 55.56m.

CROSS COUNTRY: Nottingham: British Police championships: Men: 1, D Denjais (Cheshire) 44min 00sec; 2, J Lobo (Lancashire) 44.28. Team: Metropolitan. Women: 1, A Larby (Hampshire) 25:24; 2, S Lynch (Gwent) 25.48. Team: Hampshire.

ROAD RACING: Copenhagen: IAAF world relay championships (42.2km): Men: 1, Kenya 2hr 00min 40sec; 2, Brazil 2:01:24; 3, Ethiopia 2:01:50. 4, Denmark 2:02:38. 5, Russia 2:03:37; 6, Mexico 2:03:48; 8, Great Britain (N Caddy 14:20, J Solly 29:10, I Gillespie 14:30, C Stephenson 14:55, R Quinn 21:26) 2:03:55. Women: 1, Ethiopia 2:16:04; 2, Romania 2:16:41. 3, Japan 2:18:58. 4, Italy 2:20:02; 5, Norway 2:20:56; 6, Russia 2:21:30; 7, Great Britain (R Makepeace 16:32; S Rigg 33:57; A Wright 16.38, A Hulley 33:59; S Bentley 16.37; V McPherson 23:58) 2:21.41). Portsmouth: Bupa international race: Men: 1 mile: 1, G D'Urso (It) 4min 06sec; 2, J Mayock (GB/Cannock and Stafford) 4:07, 3, I Grime (GB/Newham and Essex Beagles) 4:08. 5km: 1, P Mosima (Ken) 13:45, 2, P Evans (GB/Belgrave) 13:48, 3, P Guerra (Por) 13:51; 4, A Pearson (GB/Longwood) 13:58, 5, G Staines (GB/Belgrave) 13:59; 6, K Anderson (GB/Bingley) 13:59. Women: 1, A Sandell (Fin) 15:13; 2, C McKiernan (Ire) 15.15; 3, E McColgan (GB/Dundee Hawkhill) 15.18. Crystal Palace: Ten kilometres: 1, J Biok (Kenya) 29min 45sec; 2, S Knight (Cardiff) 29:46, 3, M Simpson (Hounslow) 29.50. Team: Kenya. Women: W Llewellyn (Serpentine) 35:06. Livingston: Scottish six-stage relay championship (27 1 miles): 1, Shettleston 2hr 11min 33sec; 2, Leslie Deans 2:11 57, 3, Leslie Deans B 2:14:35. Fastest laps: Short leg (3 13 miles), G Stewart (Leslie Deans) 14:18. Long leg (5 9 miles), A Callan (Shettleston) 28:25. Belfast: Open ten kilometres race: 1, W Musyoki (Ken) 29min 41sec; 2, S Brace (Bridgend) 29:59; 3, D Donnelly (Annadale Sinclair) 30:00. Team: North Belfast. Women: 1, D van Rensburg (SA) 35:00.

BADMINTON

HERNING, Denmark: European championship: Group A: Sweden 4 Germany 1, Russia 5 Poland 0. Group B: Denmark 4 Holland 1, England 5 Scotland 0. Group C: Wales 3 Iceland 2, Ireland 3 Austria 2, Wales 4 Ireland 1, Iceland 3 Austria 2. Group D: Ukraine 4 Finland 1, Bulgaria 3 Norway 2, Bulgaria 4 Finland 1, Ukraine 3 Norway 2.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Friday: Chicago 2 Oakland 7, Boston 1 Cleveland 3; Detroit 1 California 5. Milwaukee 1 Kansas City 4, Baltimore 3 Minnesota 2; New York 4 Texas 3, Toronto 6 Seattle 9. Saturday: Boston 2 Cleveland 14, Toronto 3 Seattle 14, Detroit 9 California 5, Baltimore 7 Minnesota 6, New York 6 Texas 10, Chicago 6 Oakland 5 (12 inns). Milwaukee 2 Kansas City 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Friday: San Francisco 4 Chicago 1, Pittsburgh 3 Montreal 13, Cincinnati 6 Houston 10 (10 inns); St Louis 6 Philadelphia 1; Colorado 6 New York 5, Los Angeles 1 Florida 3; San diego 3 Atlanta 5. Saturday: Pittsburgh 9 Montreal 3; St Louis 2 Philadelphia 4, San Francisco 3 Chicago 2 (10 inns). Postponed: Cincinnati v Houston; Colorado v New York.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Friday: Boston 136 Toronto 108, Washington 118 Minnesota 106; Atlanta 104 Milwaukee 97, Indiana 111 Orlando 101; Chicago 112 Philadelphia 82; Vancouver 99 Sacramento 98; LA Lakers 94 Golden State 81. Saturday: Miami 103 New York 95; San Antonio 84 Seattle 81, Houston 112 Dallas 111; Indiana 91 Detroit 86; LA Clippers 91 Utah 81.

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Championship play-offs: Quarter-finals, first leg: Derby 78 Birmingham 92; Manchester 72 Leopards 76, Thames Valley 87 London 118; Worthing 76 Sheffield 78.

BOWLS

MELTON MOWBRAY: English Men's Indoor Championship: Fours: First round: Shelford (S Coston) bt Atherley (P Line) 16-13, Wey Valley (J Sussex) bt Church Gresley (J Barnett) 23-18; Haverhill (L Bentock) bt Rakeside (M King) 17-16; Teignbridge (J Wickham) bt Newcastle (S Harvey) 23-17; Great Aycliffe (D Dowson) bt Newark (M Ward) 22-18; Dorchester (S Dickenson) bt Luton (J Allen) 22-12; Oyster (A Comfock) bt Stanley (C Palmer) 17-16; Bentham (G Griffiths) bt Desborough (M Woodley) 23-21; Rushden (T James) bt Westacott (D Shell) 22-12; North Walsham (I Wones) bt Avon Valley (W Ward) 21-20 (after extra end); Barking (N Smith) bt Lincoln (M Smith) 29-12; Paddington (G Smyth) bt Plymouth (P Downs) 17-12, Mid Suffolk (C Webb) bt Slade (R Adams) 30-7; Huddersfield (A Atkinson) bt Victory (C Brewer) 23-13, Cyphers (G Smith) bt Preston (D Ovett) 26-17; Falcon (D Gildersleeve) bt UCB Cellophane (D Fowkes) 30-16. Second round: Wey Valley bt Stesford 23-19, Teignbridge bt Haverhill 25-17, Great Aycliffe bt Dorchester 18-17 (after extra end), Bentham bt Oyster 20-13; North Walsham bt Rushden 22-15; Barking bt Paddington 25-22. Huddersfield bt Mid-Suffolk 22-14, Cyphers bt Falcon 31-15.

BOXING

WYTHENSHAWE FORUM, Manchester: British light-middleweight championship (12rds): Ensley Bingham (Manchester) bt Gary Logan (London) rsc 6th. Cruiserweight (8rds): C Thompson (Manchester) bt A Call (Grimsby) rsf 4th. Middleweight (4rds): P Bowen (West Ham) bt D Ryan (London) rsc 2nd. Lightweltweight (6rds). P Burke (Manchester) bt P Till (Walsall) pts.

EVERTON PARK, Liverpool: World Boxing Organisation welterweight championship (12rds): Jose Luis Lopez (Mex) bt Esmond Loughran (Ire, holder) rsc 1st. World Boxing Organisation light-flyweight championship (12rds): Baby Jake Matlala (SA, holder) bt Paul Weir (Scot) rsc 10th. Welterweight (6rds): Neil Sinclair (Ire) bt Hugh Davey (Wallasey) pts. Super-bantamweight (8rds): Michael Brodie (Manchester) bt John Shilello (Liverpool) ko 1st. Bantamweight (6rds): Peter Culshaw (Liverpool) bt Lyndon Kershaw (Halifax) rsc 3rd.

ST MAARTEN, Holland: World Boxing Council welterweight championship (12rds): Pernell Whitaker (US, holder) bt Wilfredo Rivera (P Rico) pts. World Boxing Association welterweight championship (12rds): Ike Quartey (Ghana) bt Vince Phillips no 3rd.

CRICKET

One-day international
West Indies v Sri Lanka

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Tanidad (Sri Lanka won toss): Sri Lanka beat West Indies by 35 runs

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya c Wallace b Walsh 46
†R Kaluwitharana c Adams b Harper ... 25
A P Gunasinha c Lara b Adams 59
P A de Silva c and b Williams 25
*A Ranatunga c Wallace b Adams 15
H P Tillekeratne c and b Chanderpaul . 22
W P U C J Vaas b Bishop 12
R S Mahanama c Chanderpaul b Walsh 14
U U Chandana c Adams b Harper 7
H D P K Dharmasena not out 3
M Muralitharan c Adams b Harper 4
Extras: (lb 8, w 8, nb 3) 19
Total (48.3 overs) 251

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-67, 2-88, 3-137, 4-188, 5-200, 6-217, 7-218, 8-243, 9-248

BOWLING: Bishop 5-0-49-1, Walsh 8-1-40-2; Harper 8.3-0-34-3; Williams 8-0-42-1; Adams 10-0-42-2. Chanderpaul 8-0-36-1.

WEST INDIES

S Chanderpaul run out 3
P Wallace c Muralitharan b Vaas 3
B C Lara c Jayasuriya b Dharmasena .. 71
P V Simmons c Dharmasena b Muralitharan 45
J C Adams not out 37
R I C Holder b Dharmasena 1
R A Harper c Kaluwitharana b Chandanna 0
L Williams b Muralitharan 5
†C O Browne c and b Jayasuriya 9
I R Bishop c Ranatunga b Tillekeratne . 2
Extras (lb 8, w 10, nb 2) 20
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs) 216

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-15, 3-131, 4-134, 5-140, 6-141, 7-158, 8-190, 9-218.

*C A Walsh did not bat.

BOWLING: Vaas 8-1-19-1, de Silva 9-1-42-0; Muralitharan 10-1-37-2; Dharmasena 9-1-33-2; Chandanna 10-0-40-1; Jayasuriya 5-0-32-1, Tillekeratne 1-0-5-1

Man-of-the-match: P V Simmons

Umpires: C Cumberbatch, E Nicholls

Third umpire: R Gosein

Sharjah Cup
South Africa v Pakistan

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates (South Africa won toss): South Africa beat Pakistan by 143 runs

SOUTH AFRICA

A C Hudson c Aquib b Younis 57
G Kirsten b Aquib 84
D J Cullinan not out 110
*W J Cronje c Inzamam b Mushtaq 26
J N Rhodes not out 47
Extras (lb 7, w 3) 10
Total (3 wkts, 50 overs) 314

B M McMillan, C R Matthews, S M Pollock, †D J Richardson, P S de Villiers and P L Symcox did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-115, 2-157, 3-222.

BOWLING: Younis 10-1-58-1; Aquib 9-0-69-1; Mushtaq 10-0-63-1, Saqlain 9-1-55-0; Sohail 10-0-56-0; Malik 2-0-18-0.

PAKISTAN

*Aamer Sohail c Hudson b de Villiers .. 11
Saeed Anwar c Cronje b de Villiers 33
Rameez Raja c McMillan b Pollock 1
Salim Malik not out 84
Inzamam-ul Haq run out 1
Ejaz Ahmed c Richardson b McMillan ... 1
†Rashid Latif c McMillan b Matthews ... 2
Saqlain Mushtaq lbw b Cronje 7
Aquib Javed not out 45
Extras (lb 2, w 4) 6
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs) 171

Waqar Younis and Mushtaq Ahmed did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-45, 3-49, 4-50, 5-58, 6-62, 7-90

BOWLING. Pollock 10-1-44-1, de Villiers 10-0-40-2, McMillan 7-1-20-1, Matthews 8-1-21-1, Symcox 10-1-21-0, Cronje 5-0-23-1.

Man-of-the-match: D J Cullinan

Umpires: B Cooray (Sri Lanka) and M Cowie (NZ).

South Africa v India

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates (South Africa won toss): South Africa beat India by 80 runs

SOUTH AFRICA

G Kirsten b Raju 106
A C Hudson c Tendulkar b Srinath 0
D J Cullinan c Dravid b Kumble 26
P L Symcox b Kumble 0
*W J Cronje run out 90
J N Rhodes c Dravid b Raju 23
B M McMillan not out 14
S M Pollock not out 15
Extras. (lb 7, w 4, nb 1) 12
Total (6 wkts, 60 overs) 286

†D J Richardson, C R Matthews and P S de Villiers did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-56, 3-56, 4-210, 5-249, 6-266.

BOWLING: Srinath 9-0-43-1, Valdya 6-0-42-0, Kumble 10-0-45-2, Raju 10-0-57-2, Tendulkar 7-0-40-0, Jadeja 8-0-44-0.

INDIA

A D Jadeja c Richardson b Matthews .. 42
S R Tendulkar c Kirsten b de Villiers 2
P S Valdya lbw b Pollock 12
N S Sidhu c Kirsten b Pollock 1
S V Manjrekar c Cronje b Symcox 53
*M Azharuddin c Hudson b Symcox 28
J Srinath b de Villiers 35
R Dravid c Rhodes b Pollock 11
†N R Mongia not out 9
A Kumble not out 9
Extras: (b 1, lb 1, w 3, nb 1) 6
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs) 208

S L V Raju did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-41, 3-45, 4-82, 5-143, 6-147, 7-187, 8-195.

BOWLING: Pollock 10-0-42-3, de Villiers 10-0-54-2, McMillan 7-0-18-0, Matthews 10-0-26-1, Symcox 7-0-43-2, Cronje 6-0-23-0.

Man-of-the-match: W J Cronje

Umpires: B Cooray (Sri Lanka) and M Kitchen (Eng)

ST GEORGES, New Zealand: Four-day match (Second day of four) West Indies President's XI 454, New Zealand 113 and 105-2.

GRENADA: Under-15 tour Welsh: West of England 176 (Carter 57, Hunter 50) Grenada 124.

CYCLING

ROUBAIX, France: Paris to Roubaix race: 1, J Museeuw (Bel, Mapei) 5hrs 5min, 2, G Bortolami (It, Mapei), 3, A Tafi (It, Mapei) same time; 4, S Zanini (It, Gewiss) at 2min 38sec; 5, F Ballerini (It, Mapei) same time; 6, A Tchmil (Russ, Lotto) at 5:25; 7, B Holm (Den, Telekom); 8, V Yekimov (Russ, Rabobank); 9, F Moreau (Fr, GAN); 10, M Mikel (It, Brescialat) all same time.

FENCING

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY: Cole Cup: Men: 1, K Zaviah (Eng); 2, C Reohr (US); 3, R Knight (Eng) and N Fletcher (Eng). Women: 1, L Berney (Eng); 2, L Bond-Williams (Eng), 3 S Kardolus (Holl) and S Geisdottir (Ice). Teams: Men: 1, Scotland A; 2, England; 3, Holland. Women: 1, England; 2, Iceland; 3, Holland.

HOCKEY

ATLANTA, Georgia: Six-nation pre-Olympic tournament: United States 1 South Korea 1; Pakistan 2 Great Britain 0; India 3 Argentina 0.

MILTON KEYNES: Inter-League Play-offs: Saturday: Pool one: Oxford Hawks 1 Harborne 5; Weston Super Mare 1 Bromley 9. Pool two: Hampstead 4 Ipswich 2; Warrington 1 Lewes 5 Yesterday: Pool One: Harborne 1 Weston Super Mare 2. Pool two: Lewes 3 Ipswich 3.

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division B: Dereham 4 Sudbury 0; Norwich City 3 Romford 3.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell 0 Clifton 1; Doncaster 0 Highgate 1; Ipswich 4 Balham Leicester 0; Slough 2 Sutton Canada Life 1. First division: Bradford Swithenbank 1 Exmouth 0; Chelmsford 4 Wanstead 0; Sunderland Sedans 0 Blackheath 0; Troyans 0 Canterbury 1. Second division: Ealing 1 Reading 2, Loughborough 0 Olton 0; Sherwood 1 Woking 0; St. Albans 1 Aldridge 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: Detroit 5 Chicago 3; NY Islanders 1 Florida 1 (OT), Tampa Bay 3 NY Rangers 2, Winnipeg 5 Los Angeles 3; Anaheim 5 Dallas 3; Calgary 6 San Jose 0. Saturday: Ottawa 5 New Jersey 2; Hartford 3 Boston 0, Montreal 8 NY Islanders 0 (OT); Toronto 6 Edmonton 3; Buffalo 3 Washington 2, Vancouver 5 Calgary 0.

EINDHOVEN, Holland: World Championships: Pool B: Latvia 5 Denmark 3; Switzerland 7 Japan 2; Great Britain 4 Poland 2; Great Britain 6 Holland 2.

LACROSSE

EDINBURGH: Women's International: England B 21 Scotland B 0. Mulgour Panic South of England Flags: Finals: Seniors: Kenton 13 Hampstead 6. Intermediates: Leigh 0 Croydon 26; Minors Kenton A 11 Cambridge University 7. Shepherds Friendly Society: Premier division: Heaton Mersey 18 Timperley 7; Mellor B Hulmeians 4.

ROWING

SCULLERS HEAD: Top ten and Pennant winners: 1, P Haining (Aurici Kensington). Open winner, 21min 49sec; M Kettle (Imperial College), Senior one winner, 22min 5sec; G Pooley (Leander) 22min 17sec; L Fletcher (Thames) 22min 19sec; C Greenway (Kingston), novice winner, 22min 21sec; T Male (Tideway Scullers) 22min 37sec; T Lefarman (Leander) 22min 39sec; A Wake (Tideway Scullers) 22min 41sec; 9, P Vondra (London), lightweight Open winner, 22min 46, 10th I Watson (London) and D Patullo (Aberdeen) 22min 47 sec. Other division winners: Men: Senior two: M Mackworth-Praed (Auriol Kensington) 23min 12sec. Senior three: B Long (Kingston) 23min 13sec. Services winner: M Boyd (RAF) 23min 53sec. Apprentice and Junior winner: M Hunter (Poplar, Blackwall and District) 23min 8 sec. Junior sixteen: J Foxon (Worthing) 25min 35sec. Junior fifteen: M Pinckney (Tideway Scullers) 24min 25sec. Lightweight Men: Senior one: W Suthers (Durham University) 23min 3sec. Senior two: D Smith (Nottingham Trent University) 23min 48sec. Senior three: M Watkin (London) 23min 22sec. Veteran men: Category A: D Sadler (Tideway Scullers) 23min 34sec Category B: R Stanhope (Tideway Scullers) 23min 20sec. Category C: G Gate (Tideway Scullers) 23min 51sec. Category D: A Almond (Quinton) 23min 53sec. Women: Open: P Reid (Lea) 23min 50sec. Senior one: H Newport (Nottingham and Union) 25min 44sec. Senior two: T Rooks (University of London) 24min 36sec. Senior three: E Laverick (Thames) 24min 44sec. Novice: E Jowitt (Tideway Scullers) 25min 14sec. Women's Lightweights: Open. N Dale (Tideway Scullers) 23min 53sec. Senior two: P Gough (Thames) 25min 38sec. Senior three: S Watts (University of London) 24min 51sec. Women's Veterans: Category A: L Baguley (Thames) 25min 56sec. Category B: R Davey (Hereford) 28min 4sec.

LAKE LANIER, Georgia: Oxford-Cambridge-Harvard-Yale Regatta: Men: Heavyweight: 2,000m: 1, Cambridge 5min 48sec; 2, Harvard 5min 51sec; 3, Yale 5min 54sec; 4, Oxford 5min 57sec. 500m: 1, Harvard 1min 33sec; 2, Cambridge 1min 34sec; 3, Yale 1min 35sec; 4, Oxford 1min 38sec. Lightweight: 2,000m: 1, Harvard 5min 54sec; 2, Yale 5min 54.9sec; 3, Cambridge 6min 5sec; 4, Oxford 6min 10sec. 500m: 1, Harvard 1min 24sec; 2, Oxford 1min 35sec; 3, Yale 1min 28sec, 4, Cambridge 1min 27. Women: Heavyweight: 2,000m: 1, Cambridge 6min 30sec; 2, Yale 6min 35sec; 3, Harvard 6min 43sec; 4, Oxford 6min 55sec. 500m: 1, Cambridge 1min 49sec; 2, Harvard 1min 51sec; 3, Oxford 1min 58sec; 4, Yale scratched. Veterans: 1,000m: 1, Harvard 3min 12sec; 2, Cambridge 3min 15sec; 3, Yale 3min 18sec; 4, Oxford 3min 20sec. 500m: 1, Harvard 1min 29sec; 2, Cambridge 1min 30sec; 3, Oxford 1min 33sec; 4, Yale 1min 34sec. Victor Ludorum points totals: 1, Harvard 28pts, 2, Cambridge 24; 3, Yale 15; 4, Oxford 12.

REAL TENNIS

QUEENS CLUB: British Land National Championships: Under-21: Semi-finals: A Blosse bt S Virgona 6-5, 6-2; J Willcocks bt I Ronaldson 5-6, 6-1, 6-5. Under-24: Semi-finals: D Jones bt B Dale 6-2, 6-0; R Gunn bt A Lyons 6-3, 6-3.

SCHOOL SPORT

RUGBY UNION:

Colts international

England 36 Scotland 19

England: Tries: Sampson, Barlow, Horne, Bell, Worsley. Con: Sampson. Pens: Sampson (3). Scotland: Tries: Caldwell (2). Pens: Um.

(at Coventry)

FOOTBALL: English Schools: Pakefield Festival: Hampe 5 3 Isle of Man c; Surrey 0 Hamps 1: Essex 4 Somerset 1; Kent 4 Dorset 2; Cornwall 3 Lowestoft Y 5, Northumberland 2 Shropshire 1; N Yorks 3 Cheshire 1, Durham 0 W Mids 4; Shropshire 0 Lincs 2; Northants 0 W Mids 4; Shropshire 0 Dorset 0 2; Merseyside B 3 Kent B 1, Essex B 1 Somerset B 1. Boothram Countess Cup: Semi-final: St Albans 2 M Oxon 1 Inter-Association: Sutton 5 Bexley 0.

SHOOTING

WINDHOEK: Namibia National rifle championships: Grand aggregate (after a tie): 1, Squadron Leader D Calvert RAF 585, 2, G Cox RAF (ret) 585, 700 and 800m (teams of twelve): 1, RAF 2351, 2, Namibia 2319. Port of Spain, Trinidad: International rifle championships (teams of six): 1, GB A 831.64 (Mrs T Newbold 145.9); 2, Trinidad A 831.72 (C Chow 143.12); 3, GB B 821.64 (J Dallas 141.11). Bisley: Championship (teams of eight): 1, Sussex 1161.115; 2, Berks 1150.115, 3, Stock Exchange 1132.106. Army Pistol Championship: 1, Major I Standen 1097; 2, Major R Shalmandine-Hare 109.2.

SNOOKER

IRTHLINGBOROUGH: Dr Martens European League: K Doherty (Ire) bt R O'Sullivan (Eng) 5-3; S Davis (Eng) drew with J Parrott (Eng) 4-4; S Hendry (Scot) bt P Ebdon (Eng) 5-3; P Ebdon (Eng) bt J Parrott (Eng) 5-3.

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Bradford 51 Exeter 45; Eastbourne 56 London 38; Swindon 60 B Vue 36; Cradley H and Stoke 53 Oxford 42; Coventry 64 Hull 32.

SQUASH

ANTIBES: French Open: Semi-finals: B Martin (Aus) bt J Power (Can) 3-2; R Eyles (Aus) bt A Hill (Aus) 3-1.

TENNIS

HONG KONG: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: P Sampras (US) bt J Siemerink (Holl) 6-3, 4-6, 7-6; M Chang (US) bt T Woodbridge (Aus) 6-3, 6-4. Final: Sampras bt Chang 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

LISBON: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: T Muster (Austria) bt A Corretja (Sp) 6-7, 6-4, 6-0; A Gaudenzi (It) bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 6-2, 6-1. Final: Muster bt Gaudenzi 7-6, 6-4.

NEW DELHI: Men's tournament: Final: T Enqvist (Swe) bt B Black (Zim) 6-2, 7-6.

WESTSIDE WIMBLEDON: LTA Reebok tour: Finals: Men: P Hand (Berkshire) bt T Spinks (Norfolk) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6. Women: S Smith (Essex) bt J Ward (Durham and Cleveland) 6-3, 6-2.

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida: Women's tournament: Semi-finals: M Pierce (Fr) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-2, 6-4; I Spirlea (Rom) bt A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) 6-1, 7-5.

RUGBY UNION

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Bristol	29	Leicester	49

Bristol: Tries: Bracken, Rollitt. Cons: Tainton 2. Pens: Tainton 5. Leicester: Tries: Liley, Potter, Underwood 2. Cons: Liley 4. Pens: Liley 4. Dropped goal: Harris

Harlequins	33	Gloucester	19

Harlequins: Tries: Challinor, Greenwood, O'Leary 2, Staples. Con: Challinor. Pen: Challinor. Dropped goal: Challinor. Gloucester: Tries: Raymond, Smith. Pens: Ilman 3.

Sale	44	West Hartlepool	13

Sale: Tries: Ashurst, Baxendell, Fowler, Hewitt, Mallinder, O'Grady. Cons: Liley 4. Pens: Liley 2. West Hartlepool: Try: Penalty try. Con: Benson. Pens: Benson 2.

Saracens	18	Bath	21

Saracens: Tries: Diprose, Halvey. Con: G Hughes. Pen: G Hughes. Bath: Tries: Adebayo, Dawe. Con: Callard. Pens: Callard 3.

Wasps	51	Orrell	16

Wasps: Tries: Braithwaite, Dallaglio 2, Greenstock, Gregory, Rotier, Scrase. Cons: Gregory 5. Pens: Gregory 2. Orrell: Tries: Hamer, Tuigamala. Pens: Mason 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	16	14	0	2	493	227	28
Leicester	15	13	0	2	397	205	26
Harlequins	17	12	0	5	503	295	24
Wasps	16	9	0	7	353	307	18
Sale	16	9	0	7	317	301	18
Orrell	16	7	0	9	296	404	14
Gloucester	16	5	0	11	252	332	10
Bristol	15	5	0	10	242	373	10
Saracens	16	5	0	11	287	413	10
W Hartlepool	16	0	0	15	258	611	0

LEADING SCORERS: 240: J Liley (Leicester; 3 tries, 24 conversions, 58 penalty goals, 1 dropped goal). 206: J Callard (Bath, 3t, 37c, 40pg) 168: S Mason (Orrell, 4t, 16c, 37pg). 149: R Liley (Sale: 3t, 19c, 30pg, 2dg) 128: A Lee (Saracens, 2t, 7c, 29pg, 5dg). 110: T Stimpson (West Hartlepool, 5t, 8c, 23pg). 101: P Challinor (Harlequins: 8t, 17c, 11pg, 3dg). 92: M Tainton (Bristol; 7c, 28pg, 1dg). 88: D Peans (Harlequins: 11c, 14pg, 7dg). Tries: 13: D O'Leary (Harlequins) 11: S Bromley (Harlequins). 8: J Guscott (Bath). 8: G Smith (Orrell).

Second division

Bedford	8	Moseley	23

Bedford: Try: Mansell. Pen: Smith. Moseley: Tries: Binns, Smallcombe. Cons: Binns 2. Pens: Binns 2. Dropped goal: Binns.

Blackheath	23	London Irish	46

Blackheath: Tries: James, Shadbolt 2. Cons: Howard. Pens: Howard 2. London Irish: Tries: Bird, Dougan, Hatan 2, Henderson, O'Shea. Cons: Corcoran 2. Pens: Corcoran 4.

Newcastle	45	London Scottish	11

Newcastle: Tries: Belgian, Popplewell, Ryan 2, Underwood, Vanzandvliet, Walton. Cons: Belgian 2. Pens: Belgian 2. London Scottish: Try: Walker. Pens: Steele 2.

Northampton	69	Waterloo	5

Northampton: Tries: Allen, Beal 2, Dawson, Hunter, Moir 4, Pountney 2. Cons: Grayson 7. Waterloo: Try: Fletcher.

Wakefield	36	Nottingham	15

Wakefield: Tries: Jackson, Maynard, Rushforth, Scully 2. Con: Jackson. Pens: Jackson 3. Nottingham: Tries: Gallagher, Smallwood. Con: Hodgkinson. Dropped goal: Hodgkinson.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Northampton	16	16	0	0	774	165	32
London Irish	17	14	0	3	554	377	28
London Scot	17	10	2	5	344	330	22
Wakefield	16	8	0	8	297	277	16
Moseley	17	7	0	10	291	396	14
Waterloo	17	6	2	9	289	472	14
Newcastle	17	5	1	11	320	476	11
Blackheath	17	5	1	11	290	435	11
Bedford	17	5	1	11	278	490	11
Nottingham	17	4	1	12	303	422	9

LEADING SCORERS: 285: M Corcoran (London Irish, 8 tries, 34 conversions, 59 penalty goals). 186: P Grayson (Northampton: 3t, 67c, 10pg, 2 dropped goals). 156: M Jackson (Wakefield; 1t, 17c, 39pg) 151: A Kerr (Moseley; 6t, 11c, 31pg, 2dg) 148: S Hodgkinson (Nottingham, 1t, 16c, 34pg, 3dg). 137: S Howard (Blackheath; 2t, 14c, 28pg, 5dg) 134: M Emmett (Waterloo, 1t, 12c, 35pg). 133: J Steele (London Scottish; 2t, 16c, 25pg, 2dg). Tries: 17: M Allen (Northampton). 13: G Sealy (Northampton), G Townsend (Northampton). 10: C O'Shea (London Irish). 9: C Moir (Northampton), A Pountney (Northampton). 8: Corcoran, M Dawson (Northampton).

Third division

Harrogate	44	Reading	10

Harrogate: Tries: Marcroft, Morley, Reed, S Easterby, Taylor, Wheat. Cons: Zoing 4. Pens: Zoing 2. Reading: Try: Fanning. Con: Dance. Pen: Dance.

Otley	16	Morley	21

Otley: Tries: A Hargreaves, Kirkby. Con: Rutledge. Pen: Rutledge. Morley: Tries: Massey, Shepherd. Con: Grayshon. Pens: Grayshon 3.

Richmond	35	Rosslyn Park	28

Richmond: Tries: Clarke 3, Cuthbert. Cons: Robin 3. Pens: Robin 3. Rosslyn Park: Tries: Campbell-Lamerton, Dickinson, Nightingale, penalty try. Cons: Rowland 3.

Rotherham	29	Fylde	19

Rotherham: Tries: Selkirk, West 2. Con: Plant. Pens: Plant 3. Dropped goal: Plant. Fylde: Try: Anderton. Con: Gough. Pens: Gough 4.

Rugby	13	Coventry	24

Rugby: Try: Ashmead. Con: Quantrill. Pens: Quantrill 2. Coventry: Tries: Barden, Hancock. Con: Thomas. Pens: Thomas 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Coventry	17	14	0	3	471	237	28
Richmond	17	13	1	3	481	240	27
Rugby	18	11	1	4	330	232	23
Rotherham	17	11	0	6	395	380	22
Morley	17	9	1	7	320	312	19
Harrogate	17	6	2	9	317	371	14
Reading	17	5	1	11	370	431	11
Otley	17	5	1	11	285	436	11
Rosslyn Park	16	3	2	11	254	366	8
Fylde	17	2	1	14	257	423	5

LEADING SCORERS: 204: R Zoing (Harrogate: 3 tries, 18 conversions, 48 penalty goals, 3 dropped goal). 195: J Grayshon (Morley: 2t, 19c, 43pg, 6dg) 188: J Gregory (Richmond, 4t, 26c, 38pg) 172: J Quantrill (Rugby: 3t, 20c, 38pg). 139: P Rutledge (Otley, 1t, 10c, 38pg). 137: K Plant (Rotherham: 16c, 30pg, 5dg). 127: S Gough (Fylde, 2t, 12c, 31pg) Tries: 12: C Phillips (Reading). 9: A Boyd (Richmond), J Horrobin (Coventry), E Saunders (Rugby) 8: A Cuthbert (Richmond), B Shepherd (Coventry)

Fourth division

Aspatria	40	Leeds	27
Exeter	34	Clifton	8
Havant	12	Walsall	30
Liverpool St H	27	London Welsh	10
Redruth	36	Plymouth	17

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Exeter	17	14	0	3	434	198	28
Liverpool St H	17	11	1	5	451	319	23
London W	17	11	0	6	392	256	22
Walsall	17	9	0	8	382	304	18
Leeds	17	8	1	8	267	334	17
Clifton	17	7	1	9	253	278	15
Redruth	17	7	1	9	338	372	15
Havant	17	7	1	9	278	343	15
Aspatria	17	5	1	11	324	452	11
Plymouth	17	3	0	14	221	513	6

Fifth division south

North Walsham	13	Lydney	17

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lydney	12	11	0	1	320	132	23
Western-s-M	12	10	0	2	207	123	20
Henley	12	8	0	4	349	192	16
Barking	12	6	0	4	243	187	16
Berry Hill	12	7	0	5	203	195	14
Cheltenham	12	6	0	6	194	173	12

Overbury sets standard with victory in valuable Hong Kong event

Godolphin clocks on for new season

By Julian Muscat

AS NEWMARKET'S big battalions fine-tune their classic candidates before this week's trials, word will have spread like wildfire that Sheikh Mohammed's Godolphin operation is already up and running.

The stable picked up where it left off last season when Overbury, ridden by Frankie Dettori, landed the Queen Elizabeth II Cup at Sha Tin, Hong Kong, yesterday. Such triumphs have become almost commonplace but the real business starts when 45 Godolphin horses arrive in Newmarket on April 28.

Thus will commence the game within a game. Alhaarth and Mark Of Esteem, Blue Duster and Bint Shadayid: the Maktoums's Godolphin-trained horses pitted against the same family's thoroughbreds trained in Britain. Last year there was only one winner, Overbury's victory suggests that racegoers will be seduced once again by the desert team.

However, Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, played down talk of another barnstorming summer with low-key accounts of the recent trials in Dubai. The chances are that Crisford was merely keeping a tight grip on hype. He is, though, keenly looking forward to a season that opens with Godolphin knowing little about the racing merits of its lightly-raced string.

That is why Godolphin's training strategy fully embraces the stopwatch. "We have a good understanding of the track at Al Quoz," Crisford said, "and we can compare the times recorded by Moonshell and Vettori in training last year. The sand surface is consistent and safe so we know exactly where we are with each horse."

Guesswork is wholly absent from all aspects of Godolphin's programme. The date, April 11, when the classic prospects were galloped hard was established many months ago. It is precisely 17 days from the string's departure to Newmarket. "The route worked well for us last year," Crisford explained.

"It means we have the opportunity to do two more bits of work with our runners for the Guineas meeting. As soon as we get to Newmarket on April 28, we have to wipe a whole week from our calendar. The horses won't work in the week leading up to the classics. They must be race-fit when they leave Dubai."

The whole regimen is played out in front of Sheikh Mohammed, who is involved on a daily basis. His input goes way beyond watching work and selecting race targets. He monitors the quality of hay, assesses each horse's condition and takes part in good-natured squabbling over diets and other routine matters around the yard.

Visits to the stable during quiet times of the day require you to tiptoe down the barns while talking in whispers. Culling the string from 85 to 45 for the Newmarket trip is described by Crisford as a brutal process from which only the best emerge.

As for the likely stars, Crisford is a reluctant soothsayer. Even after the much-publicised trials he insists a lot can change in the next three weeks. "Those gallops were not the be all and end all," he said. "There is time for Mark Of Esteem and Bint Shadayid to improve. Pricket [an Oaks candidate] was disappointing, as was Russian Revival, but he has worked better than he showed that day."

Others for whom expectations rose were Mick's Love and Helicon. Don Micheletto, described by the sheikh as a possible French 2,000 Guineas colt, also moved well. Of the two-year-olds, two fillies attracting his attention are Hamasaat and Manuetti.

If it remains anyone's guess which will prove the best of them, there seems little doubt Godolphin will unveil something to capture the racing world's attention by the summer's end.

TREVOR JONES

Thoroughbreds enjoy a swim at Sheikh Mohammed's Al Quoz stables in Dubai, where the detailed training regime produces outstanding results

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Ascot

2.00 1, Senor El Betrutti (2-1); 2, Call It A Day (4-7 fav); 3, Milo Boy (100-1). 4 ran.
2.35 1, Suivez (16-1); 2, Amancio (6-1); 3, Direct Route (3-1 fav). 12 ran. NR: Albemine.
3.10 1, Pleasure Shared (6-1); 2, Seekin Cash (11-4 fav); 3, Gillan Cove (8-1). 7 ran.
3.40 1, Morcell (7-1); 2, Big Matt (13-2); 3, Efisio (10-1). Around The Horn 5-1 fav. 15 ran
4.15 1, Mandys Martino (9-4 fav); 2, Sparkling Yasmin (5-2); 3, Hunting Lore (14-1). 14 ran. NR: Sea God.
4.45 1, Little Martina (11-4 fav); 2, King's Treasure (100-30); 3, Birchall Boy (33-1). 11 ran.
5.20 1, Intermagic (4-1); 2, Dream Rule (15-8 fav); 3, Supreme Lady (3-1). 8 ran.
Jackpot: £82,487.60 (0.39 winning tickets; pool of £70,889.55 carried forward to Southwell today).

Warwick

1.50 1, Bettynouche (9-4); 2, Woman Of Wit (2-1 fav); 3, Molly Music (11-2). 5 ran. NR: Lady Grovelar
2.20 1, Secret Voucher (11-4 fav); 2, Montrestar (12-1); 3, Lady Caroline Lamb (11-2); 4, Tymeera (10-1). 16 ran. NR: Beany, Dancing Jack.
2.50 1, Northern Celadon (7-2 fav); 2, Kingchip Boy (9-2), 3, Bad News (33-1). 14 ran.
3.20 1, Sorbie Tower (7-2 fav); 2, Proud Monk (5-1), 3, Quality (11-1). 15 ran. NR: Star And Garter
3.50 1, Purple Splash (4-1 fav); 2, Kadestrol (8-1); 3, Sea Freedom (12-1). 12 ran.
4.20 1, Alpine Twist (9-1); 2, Speed On (9-2); 3, Smithereens (11-8 fav). 16 ran.

Wolverhampton

7.00 1, Jump The Lights (4-1); 2, Sedbergh (8-11 fav); 3, Nordic Haro (10-1). 5 ran.
7.30 1, Standown (9-2); 2, Hannah's Usher (6-4 fav); 3, Little Saboteur (9-1). 10 ran.
8.00 1, Little Tonr (7-2 jt-fav); 2, Lady Sheriff (7-2 jt-fav); 3, Disco Boy (4-1). 7 ran.
8.30 1, Golden Touch (3-1 fav); 2, Quinzi Martin (8-1); 3, Chadleigh Lane (8-1). 12 ran.
9.00 1, Sweet Amoret (8-1); 2, Sheiks Dream (25-1); 3, Loch Style (9-2). Eurobox Boy 5-4 fav. 11 ran.
9.30 1, Iota (8-1), 2, Swordking (9-4 fav); 3, Durham (3-1). 9 ran.

Newton Abbot

2.00 1, Jovial Man (7-2 jt-fav); 2, Spring Grass (14-1); 3, Lansdowne (8-1). Shemlmur 7-2 jt-fav 15 ran. NR: Browned Off, Ronang Glen.
2.35 1, Evangelica (8-1); 2, Simpson (13-2); 3, Hag's Way (8-1). Mount Senath 7-2 fav. 15 ran. NR: Precis.
3.05 1, Allo George (5-2 fav); 2, Act The Wag (3-1); 3, Lucky Again (20-1) 11 ran. NR: Embley Bucy, Rainbow Castle
3.35 1, Abbey Street (7-4 fav), 2, Yubralee (4-1); 3, Asking (20-1). 10 ran.
4.05 1, Marius (13-2); 2, Fourth In Line (9-4); 3, Hold Your Ranks (7-2). World Express 2-1 fav. 8 ran.
4.40 1, Aal El Aal (5-4 fav); 2, Benjamin Lancaster (20-1); 3, James The First (13-8). 6 ran. NR: Caspian Beluga, Dear Do, Evening Rain.

Sedgefield

1.45 1, Thansia (50-1). 2, Classic Crest (10-1); 3, German Legend (7-1). Saught Son 11-10 fav. 8 ran.
2.15 1, Russian Castle (10-11 fav); 2, Andrce Gale (3-1); 3, The Energiser (14-1). 7 ran. NR: Mischievous Girl.
2.45 1, Glenugie (5-2 fav); 2, Little Bromley (5-1); 3, Val De Rama (10-1). 8 ran.
3.15 1, Spring Call (6-1); 2, Bowlands Country (16-1); 3, Barnstormer (66-1). Knucklebuster Evens fav. 12 ran. NR: Ballyalla Castle
3.45 1, Go Silly (7-2); 2, Grand Scenery (7-2), 3, The Green Fool (12-1). Uron V 2-1 fav. 8 ran.
4.15 1, Just Frankie (7-4 fav); 2, Treaddar (7-2); 3, Flash Of Realm (15-8). 5 ran.
4.45 1, Durald (12-1); 2, Blood Brother (7-1), 3, Southern Cross (10-11 fav). 14 ran.

Point-to-point results, page 34

Classic dreams of a breed apart

GERALD LEIGH

Racing commentary

Owning and breeding racehorses is more often about disappointment than success. At Eydon Hall Stud, we have been lucky enough to have bred and raised a number of good ones. Barathea, Markofdistinction and Bequest are among the group one winners produced on the farm but Bosra Sham is potentially the best.

Judgment day arrives at Newbury on Friday, when Bosra Sham reappears in the Fred Darling Stakes. Seven months of expectation will condense into a moment of hard galloping and the outcome will determine whether she deserves to be favourite for the 1,000 Guineas.

Breeding racehorses became both a passion and a business 30 years ago. It remains an imprecise art, yet expectations for Bosra Sham were high from the day she was foaled. She was originally named Quercifolia, although Wafic Said re-registered her after buying her at the yearling sales. He paid 530,000 guineas, but I still think of her as mine.

There is no doubt Bosra Sham carries the genes to perform at the highest level. If not a guarantee, it is always a help. She is by Woodman out of Korveya, who has already bred two French classic winners in Hector Protector and Shanghai. In her youth she was clearly the pick of the foals at Eydon Hall. It proved impossible to pass without stopping to lean over the fence and dream about her future.

When she left the farm for the auction ring in 1994, she fulfilled our expectations when she became the most expensive yearling sold in Europe. Ironically, to judge by the fortunes of previous sales toppers, it was hardly a portent for a successful racing career. Yet soon there were reports of her prowess. It usually pays to temper such enthusiasm but Bosra Sham did not disappoint. She followed her winning debut at Newbury by running away with the group one Fillies' Mile at Ascot.

Should Bosra Sham make it to Newmarket, the experience will be extreme to say the least. I remember what happened when Ahead, my first classic runner, took part in the 1990 Oaks. The start was delayed, and all that had gone before played on my mind like a drowning man.

Here was a filly I had bred and raised, out of a mare I had also bred and raised. Many from the family were in the paddocks at Eydon Hall. Their pedigrees would be much enhanced if Ahead could win. She finished a respectable fifth behind Salsabil and I wondered how long it would be before Eydon Hall produced another classic runner. Breeding horses teaches you to take nothing for granted.

In many ways, Markofdistinction typifies this business. He came along by chance. His mother's intended mate suffered an accident, so she was covered by Known Fact. The plan was to sell Markofdistinction but he injured a knee and was retained to race in my colours by default. He became champion miler of Europe.

After Markofdistinction came Barathea, who won the 1994 Breeders' Cup Mile. Could there ever be another moment like it? Could it get better? Indeed, should one even try? Barathea became a champion miler, out of a family Eydon Hall has nurtured for many years.

Barathea now has foals; the early reports are promising. Bosra Sham is about to be tested at the highest level. A new racing season brings with it new hopes. More often than not, it ends in disappointment. Should Bosra Sham fail, aspiration will turn once again to the two-year-olds being broken and conditioned; the yearlings with their problems of development. Then there are this year's foals. Success is the reward; failure the spur.

MUSSELBURGH

THUNDERER

2.00 Docklands Carriage
2.30 HAWKSLEY HILL (nap)
3.00 Plum First
3.30 Carmosa
4.00 Miss Offset
4.30 Commander Glen

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.30 DON PEPE (nap).

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 98

Rulings number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 BELFRY MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,529: 5f) (5 runners)

1 (4) DOCKLANDS CARRIAGE (Mrs L Olley) N Tinkler 8-7 ... R Cochrane –
2 (2) NEON DEON (Miss L Ward) S Williams 8-7 ... K Fallon –
3 (3) RED ROMANCE (J Bianchi) Denys Smith 8-3 ... L Charnock –
4 (1) 4 ABSOLUTELY ABSTONE 9 (J Abbey) P Evans 8-0 ... S Sanders –
5 (5) 2 FULL TRACEABILITY 16 (J Clayton) J Berry 8-0 ... N Carlisle –

BETTING: 5-4 Full Traceability, 9-4 Absolutely Abstone, 5-2 Neon Deion, 8-1 Docklands Carriage, 14-1 Red Romance.

1995: TROPICAL BEACH 9-5 J Carroll (11-4) J Berry 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOCKLANDS CARRIAGE (foaled May 4; cost 8,000grns), half-brother by Anita's Prince to three winners including juvenile 5f/6f winner Arvanes, dam unraced half-sister to Oaks winner Ginevra. NEON DEON (Jan 28; 5,800gns). First foal, by Alzao, dam, half-sister to useful middle-distance performer Feminine Wiles, winner in Italy. RED ROMANCE (Mar 12; 850gns). Second foal, by Prince Daniel; dam multiple winner over 7f-1m 2f. ABSOLUTELY ABSTONE 5l 4th of 9 to Aznac Traveller in maiden auction at Haydock (5f, good). FULL TRACEABILITY 3l 2nd of 7 to Enchanting Eve in maiden auction at Beverley (5f, good). Selection: FULL TRACEABILITY

2.30 PINKIE PILLARS HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,873: 1m 3f 32yd) (5 runners)

1 (0) 000-0 GO-GO-POWER-RANGER 20 (F Hayne) B Ellison 9-7 ... N Kennedy 62
2 (1) 020-006 THE FULLBANGLADESH 6 (D Campbell) J Eyre 9-4 ... R Lappin 90
3 (2) 16 PANAMA JIVE 13 (G) (J Morrison) M Johnston 9-4 ... J Weaver 90
4 (4) 000-1 HAWKSLEY HILL 6 (G) (H Alexander) Mrs J Ramsden 9-2 (5ex) ... K Fallon 98
5 (3) 6041 RAJAH 16 (G) (G Reed) C Thornton 9-1 ... D McKeown 97

BETTING: 6-4 Hawksley Hill, 7-4 Panama Jive, 3-1 Rajah, 10-1 Go-Go-Power-Ranger, 16-1 The Fullbangladesh.

1995: SLAPY DAM 8-8 K Fallon (6-5 fav) Mrs J Ramsden 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

GO-GO-POWER-RANGER 7¼l 7th of 15 to Astral Weeks in handicap at Newcastle (1m 2f, good to soft). PANAMA JIVE neck 2nd (late pressured back) of 8 to Arch Angel in seller at Southwell (AW, 1m) no penalties start. HAWKSLEY HILL beat Dream The Yard 1¼l in 12-runner handicap at Southwell (AW, 7f) with THE FULLBANGLADESH (2lb worse off) 7½l 6th. RAJAH beat Ballwick 1l in 8-runner handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 1m 100yd). Selection: HAWKSLEY HILL

3.00 TOLBOOTH LIMITED STAKES (£2,553: 5f) (8 runners)

1 (2) 051333 TENOR 11 (D,G) (G Thompson) D Nicholls 5-9-7 ... Alex Greaves 82
2 (7) 40000-3 GARNOCK VALLEY 4 (F,S) (R Aird) J Berry 6-9-4 ... H Cummins 97
3 (1) 5350-60 JUST BOB 7 (CD,F,G,S) (J Fotherby) S Kettlewell 7-9-4 ... J Stack (3) 92
4 (3) 0114-00 LEADING PRINCESS 4 (B,D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 5-9-4 ... Angela Gallimore (7) 80
5 (6) 2000-22 PLUM FIRST 7 (D,F,G,S) (J Satcher) L Lloyd-James 6-9-4 ... Kimberley Hart (7) [illegible]
6 (5) 1200-00 SERIOUS HURRY 11 (B,D,F,G) (Mrs L Mckellar) R McKellar 6-9-4 ... D McCaffrin (7) 75
7 (4) 24050-0 SIX FOR LUCK 11 (CD,F) (Mrs J McFadyen-Murray) D Nolan 4-9-4 ... N Varley (3) 88
8 (8) 1 CALL ME 14 (B) (G Reed) C Thornton 3-8-7 ... D McKeown 90

BETTING: 5-2 Tenor, 3-1 Just Bob, 7-2 Plum First, 9-2 Garnock Valley, 5-1 Call Me, 16-1 Six For Luck, 20-1 others.

1995: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

TENOR 3l and head 3rd of 18 to To The Roof in handicap over course and distance (good) with SIX FOR LUCK (4lb better off) about 3½l 7th. LEADING PRINCESS (2lb worse off) 2½l 11th and SERIOUS HURRY 3l 13th. GARNOCK VALLEY neck and 1l 3rd of 17 to My Gallery in handicap at Hamilton (6f, good to soft) with LEADING PRINCESS (12lb worse off) 3l 13th. JUST BOB 5½l 9th of 20 to Canovas Heart in handicap at Warwick (5f, good). PLUM FIRST ¾l 2nd of 19 to Kira in handicap at Newcastle (5f, good) CALL ME beat Mels Baby 8l in 7-runner maiden auction at Southwell (AW, 7f). Selection: CALL ME

3.30 INVERESK RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,577: 1m 16yd) (8 runners)

1 (5) 006- ALPINE JOKER 165 (G Armitage) Mrs J Ramsden 9-0 ... K Fallon 80
2 (2) 000- CLASSIC DEFENCE 201 (J Robb) J Hills 9-0 ... M Henry (5) 98
3 (4) 46-6 DANICO 23 (P Gaughan) S Williams 9-0 ... J Tate 90
4 (1) 00006-2 MELS BABY 14 (V) (J Roberts) (Wakefield) J Eyre 9-0 ... R Lappin 91
5 (3) 000- TURBO NORTH 215 (A Watson) M Dods 9-0 ... N Connorton 80
6 (8) 6043-05 CARMOSA 11 (A Blenkiron) D Nicholls 8-11 ... Alex Greaves [illegible]
7 (7) 004- SHIRLEY BLUE 153 (Greenland Park Ltd) M Johnston 8-11 ... J Weaver 90
8 (6) 2444-43 YUPPY GIRL 13 (J Hacking) J Watson 8-11 ... S D Williams 86

BETTING: 8-4 Carmosa, 4-1 Danico, 5-1 Alpine Joker, 7-1 Classic Defence, Mels Baby, 8-1 Shirley Blue, 10-1 others

1995: EDEN DANCER 9-0 K Darley (2-1) Mrs M Reveley 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALPINE JOKER 10l 6th of 11 to Singing Patriarch in Catterick maiden (6f, good to firm). CLASSIC DEFENCE best effort last season, 7½l 8th of 13 to Al Abrag in Sandown maiden auction (7f, good to firm) DANICO 3¾l 4th of 11 to Too Hasty in Catterick maiden auction (7f, good to firm). July 1995. MELS BABY 6l 3rd of 7 to Call Me in Southwell maiden auction (AW, 7f) TURBO NORTH 10l 7th of 11 to First Mate in Beverley maiden (5f, good). CARMOSA about 14l 5th of 14 to Eden Rises in maiden handicap here (7f, good) Selection: DANICO

4.00 ESKMILL SELLING HANDICAP (£2,264: 7f 15yd) (14 runners)

1 (5) 055030 EVERSET 2 (B,D,F,G,S) (G Myson) A Bailey 8-10-0 ... D Wright (3) 94
2 (2) 140000- CARE AND COMFORT 171 (F) (Elite Racing Club) N Tinkler 4-9-12 ... R Cochrane 82
3 (14) 465053 BEST KEPT SECRET 40 (F,G,S) (Tern Hill Communications) P Evans 5-9-9 ... S Sanders 81
4 (7) 233/ CACHARRO 676 (B Bostin) Miss Z Green 5-9-9 ... Darren Moffatt (3) –
5 (9) 0000-50 DIET 4 (V,CD,F,G,S) (Miss L Perratt) Miss L Perratt 10-9-8 ... N Connorton 86
6 (6) 00450-5 FLAMBORO 49 (D,G,S) (Footballers' Racing Club) J Bethell 4-9-5 ... J Weaver 80
7 (13) 1442-03 NORTHERN SPARK 11 (C,D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 8-9-3 ... J Fanning 92
8 (11) 0400-30 XOMLUCKY 28 (B,G) (Handleton Partnership) A Mulholland 4-8-11 F Lynch (5) 84
9 (10) 00-3650 LA DAMA 11 (Miss A Bennett) A Mulholland 4-8-7 ... M McAndrew 94
10 (12) 0500-30 LARRYLIKEATHUGH 12 (J Clayton) J J O'Neill 3-8-6 ... S D Williams 92
11 (8) 0004-00 GOOD SO FA 31J (H,S) (Mrs J Williams) C Allen 4-8-4 ... C Hodgson –
12 (3) 154114 MISS OFFSET 13 (B,D,G,S) (Hartford Offset Ltd) M Johnston 3-8-3 J Stack (3) [illegible]
13 (4) 00000-0 STRATHTORE DREAM 6 (Miss L Perratt) Miss L Perratt 5-8-1 ... N Carlisle –
14 (1) 46413-6 FUNNY ROSE 12 (C,F) (P Monteith) P Monteith 8-8-1 ... L Charnock 90

BETTING: 3-1 Funny Rose, 5-1 Northern Spark, 6-1 Diet, 8-1 Best Kept Secret, Everset, Larrylikeathugh, Miss Offset, 10-1 others.

1995: VINDALOO 3-7-12 Dale Gibson (15-1) J Hanns 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

EVERSET about 4½l 6th of 14 to Northern Celadon in claimer at Warwick (1m, good to soft). BEST KEPT SECRET 5l 3rd of 9 to Old Boy in an amateur riders' handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 6f). CACHARRO 6½l 3rd of 14 to Patonic in apprentice jockeys' maiden auction at Newbury (7f, good to firm). FLAMBORO about 3¾l 5th of 11 to Bold Ambassador in selling handicap at Southwell (AW, 6f) with LA DAMA (11lb better off) 5l 6th. NORTHERN SPARK neck and 2½l 3rd of 14 to Bedazzle in selling handicap here (1m, good) with DIET 1½l and head 5th. LARRYLIKEATHUGH 1¾l 3rd of 14 to Bargash in seller at Catterick (7f, good to soft) on penultimate start. MISS OFFSET beat Mallesons neck in 9-runner handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 7f). FUNNY ROSE beat Pontin Sophie neck in 8-runner selling handicap here (1m 3f, firm), July 10. Selection: NORTHERN SPARK (nap)

4.30 MUSSELBURGH SPRING HANDICAP (£2,996: 7f 15yd) (12 runners)

1 (8) 660-110 DANCING SIOUX 47 (D,BF,G) (Ms A Jelliney) R Guest 4-10-0 ... F Lynch (5) [illegible]
2 (6) 0050-13 BARGASH 7 (D,F,G) (J Pugh) P Evans 4-9-12 ... S Sanders 96
3 (9) 136000- DON PEPE 179 (CD,F,G) (Mrs E Aird) R Boss 5-9-11 ... R Cochrane 91
4 (1) 3000/44 DEBERT LORE 14 (G) (A McPherson) D Nolan 5-9-6 ... Alex Greaves 80
5 (10) 05100-0 COMMANDER GLEN 19 (V,F) (P Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-1 ... K Fallon 92
6 (11) 521111 MY GALLERY 4 (D,G,S) (R Cox) A Bailey 5-8-0 (6ex) ... Angela Gallimore (7) 88
7 (4) 3000034- BLUE GRIT 286 (C,D,F,G,S) (C Michael Wilson) M Dods 10-8-11 D McKeown 97
8 (7) 13430-4 TINKLERS FOLLY 4 (C,F) (R Manners) Denys Smith 4-8-8 ... L Charnock 91
9 (12) 0-30504 PC'S CRUISER 14 (B,G) (PC Racing Partners) J Eyre 4-8-6 ... R Lappin 91
10 (3) 11000-2 SPIRITO LIBRO 11 (C,F) (Camelot Racing) C Allen 3-8-5 ... C Hodgson 95
11 (5) 43542-1 BEDAZZLE 11 (C,G) (M Britain) M Britain 5-8-0 ... M Henry (5) 95
12 (2) 0-04 ARABIAN HEIGHTS 13 (P Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 3-7-12 ... N Kennedy 93

BETTING: 5-2 My Gallery, 9-2 Don Pepe, 8-1 Bargash, Bedazzle, 9-1 Tinklers Folly, Blue Grit, 10-1 others.

1995: DON PEPE 4-9-11 J Carroll (5-7) R Boss 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

DANCING SIOUX completed double, beat MY GALLERY (1lb better off) 1¾l in 10-runner apprentice jockeys' handicap at Lingfield (AW, 7f) on penultimate start. BANBASH 4l and head 3rd of 17 to Double Splendour in handicap at Nottingham (6f, good to firm). DON PEPE best effort last season, beat Sycamore Lodge head in 12-runner handicap at Ayr (7f, good to firm). MY GALLERY completed four-timer, beat Mister Westsound neck in 17-runner handicap at Hamilton (6f, good to soft). BLUE GRIT dead-heated 3rd of 12 to Sougefficial in handicap at Pontefract (6f, good to soft) on penultimate start. TINKLERS FOLLY 3¼l 4th of 12 to Rambo Waltzer in apprentice jockeys' handicap at Hamilton (1m 65yd, good to soft). PC'S CRUISER about 5¾l 4th of 14 to Awesome Venture in handicap at Southwell (AW, 1m). BEDAZZLE beat SPIRITO LIBRO (1lb better off) neck in 14-runner selling handicap here (1m, good). Selection: DON PEPE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
R Boss	3	6	50.0	J Weaver	29	111	26.1
S Williams	5	11	45.5	J Tate	3	15	20.0
N Tinkler	6	20	30.0	J Stack	6	52	11.5
A Bailey	4	14	28.6	L Charnock	9	86	10.5
P Evans	3	15	20.0	Only qualifiers			
J Berry	26	155	16.7				

FLAT LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Runs above par	Level stakes
J Eyre	25	16	13	4	+44.79
R Hollinshead	22	17	25	12	-10.84
M Johnston	20	25	12	8	+12.79
S Dow-ing	15	19	7	13	-17.58
A Bailey	14	12	9	2	-13.67
D Nicholls	13	9	7	3	-25.43
G L Moore	12	17	13	12	-30.93
A Moore	11	9	10	39	+10.88
R O'Sullivan	10	6	6	2	+22.47
C Brittain	10	7	13	22	-12.66
D Chapman	10	10	9	38	+2.50

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Leading expenses	Level stakes
J Weaver	41	40	30	16	-1.11
R Cochrane	32	27	26	1	-18.17
L Dettori	19	11	6	8	+9.87
J Quinn	18	20	27	17	-104.20
A Clark	16	12	12	5	+17.41
F Lynch	16	17	23	16	-0.89
J Fortune	16	12	15	18	-55.51
S Sanders	16	20	17	0	-40.45

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Commander Glen (4.30 Musselburgh)
Next best: White Diamond (2.40 Hexham)

RACELINE 0930 168+
COMMENTARY RESULTS
MUSSELB'GH 101 201
SOUTHWELL 102 202
HEXHAM 103 203
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168
MORNING NEWS FOR TOMORROW 368

HEXHAM

THUNDERER

2.10 The Stitcher. 2.40 White Diamond. 3.10 Colorful Ambition. 3.40 Boethius. 4.10 Quayside Cottage. 4.40 Primitive Heart. 5.10 Madge McSplash.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.40 WHITE DIAMOND.

Carl Evans: 4.10 Quayside Cottage.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.10 ELDON SQUARE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,889: 2m 4f 110yd) (10 runners)

1 213 CHERRY POKEY 187 (C,F) D Alder 9-11-6 ... A Thornton
2 264 CRAGNABUOY 7 W Reed 6-11-0 ... B Harding
3 0 ETHICAL NOTE 35 M Hammond 5-11-0 ... Mr P Johnson
4 05 FEMLOE RAMBLER 21 R Johnson 5-11-0 ... Mr D Swindlehurst
5 0-0P GROG 140 D Swindlehurst 7-11-0 ... B Storey
6 3FP4 MULLINGAR 35 (F) J Charlton 7-11-0 ... T Reed
7 2432 THE STITCHER 21 L Lungo 6-11-0 ... P Niven
8 4303 WHATIDIDYOUSAY 35 B Bousfield 8-11-0 ... J Railton
9 5558 SILVER PENNY 27 Mrs A Swinbank 6-10-9 ... W Fry
10 0004 MOVIE MAN 7 J Turner 4-10-7 ... W Marston

7-4 The Stitcher, 7-2 Whatididuysay, 9-1 Cragnabuoy, Cherry Pokey, 12-1 others.

2.40 ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,963: 2m 4f 110yd) (9)

1 301F WISE ADVICE 16 (D,F) M Hammond 6-12-0 ... R Garritty
2 3U5P WAIT YOU THERE 9 (C,D,F,G,S) H Alexander 11-11-9 Mr S Swiers
3 2203 CHARMING GALE 88 (V,D,F,G,S) Mrs Bradburne 9-11-4 A Watt (7)
4 432P ANOTHER RED 6 (F,S) W Rear 8-10-7 ... B Grattan (7)
5 3PP1 SUPPOSIN 9 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 8-10-6 ... R Guest
6 4141 DALUSMAN 7 (D,F) J Ginesh 8-10-6 (8ex) ... L O'Hara
7 4522 WHITE DIAMOND 6 (F,S) Miss L Russell 8-10-3 ... M Foster
8 F4PP LAURIE-O 17 (CD,F,G,S) D Lamb 12-10-1 ... J Burke
9 06P6 DONOVANS REEF 9 (F,S) Mrs L Marshall 10-10-0 ... O Bentley

9-4 Wise Advice, 7-2 Charming Gale, 4-1 Supposin, 5-1 Dalusman, 10-1 others.

3.10 HIGH FRIARS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,553: 2m) (8)

1 0221 COLORFUL AMBITION 9 (F) Mrs A Swinbank 6-11-10 J Railton
2 3202 ENVY 17 (D,G) J Quinn 7-10-11 ... E Callaghan (5)
3 2106 SHREWD JOHN 6 (D,F,G) R Woodhouse 10-10-10 ... M Dwyer
4 -001 FLINTLOCK 9 (F) H Alexander 6-10-7 ... R McGrath (7)
5 0203 SILVER SLEEVE 7 (B) M Hammond 4-10-0 ... Mr C Bonner (3)
6 -000 CASUAL PASS 14 (CD,F,G,S) L Lungo 13-10-0 ... F Perratt
7 F0P5 CADEAUX PREMIERE 17 (CD,F) D Smith 5-10-0 ... R Burns (7)
8 5-PP TOLL BOOTH 42 (F) J Charlton 7-10-0 ... B Harding

2-1 Colorful Ambition, 7-2 Envy, Silver Sleeve, 7-1 Flintlock, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

HEXHAM: Trainers: J Edwards, 4 winners from 12 runners, 33.3%; L Lungo, 17 from 63, 27.0%, Denys Smith, 7 from 35, 20.0%, H Johnson, 11 from 65, 16.9%, W G Reed, 9 from 59, 15.3%. Jockeys: N Bentley, 15 winners from 50 rides, 30.0%; P Niven, 21 from 82, 25.6%; T Reed, 25 from 100, 25.0%; J Burke, 4 from 21, 19%, B Harding, 6 from 38, 15.8%.

SOUTHWELL: Trainers: T Forster, 5 winners from 13 runners, 38.5%; B Llewellyn, 3 from 8, 37.5%; N Tinkler, 5 from 18, 27.8%; J Leigh, 4 from 15, 26.7%; D Nicholson, 5 from 21, 23.8%. Jockeys: Philip Hughes, 3 winners from 6 rides, 50.0%; Mr J L Llewellyn, 3 from 8, 37.5%, Guy Lewis, 4 from 12, 33.3%; Mr C Bonner, 3 from 13, 23.1%, S Wynne, 19 from 107, 17.8%.

3.40 SHOPPERS NOVICES CHASE (£3,125: 2m 110yd) (11)

1 12-0 ST ELMO'S FIRE 41 (F) Miss L Russell 11-11-8 ... A Thornton
2 6604 BOETHUS 17 F Walton 7-11-1 ... B Storey
3 P-PP CARDINAL SINNER 17 (B) J Wade 7-11-1 ... R Jones
4 P20P CROFTON LAKE 121 (B) J Dixon 8-11-1 ... F Perratt
5 [illegible] MACDONACHIE III M Dods 9-11-1 ... T Reed
6 -FFO SASKIA'S HERO 21 (G,S) J Bottomley 9-11-1 ... D Byrne
7 6040 TO BE THE BEST 145 D Lamb 6-11-1 ... J Burke
8 5-00 TROPNEVAD 56 P Scottswood 8-11-1 ... P Waggott
9 -DFP TUMBLIN DOTT 38 J Haldane 7-11-1 ... B Harding
10 U556 KONFALUME DANCER 24 Miss L Russell 6-10-10 ... M Foster
11 P/P OVER THE ISLAND 48 H Johnson 8-10-10 ... P Carberry

7-2 St Elmo's Fire, 5-1 Macdonachie, 11-2 Boethius, 6-1 Over The Island, 7-1 Crofton Lake, Konfalume Dancer, 10-1 To Be The Best, 12-1 others.

4.10 CHEVY CHASE MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,114: 3m 1f) (9)

1 -663 ACROSS THE CARD 9P (F,G) G Ramsay 8-12-7 W Ramsay (7)
2 -123 ADMISSION 40 (G) N Chamberlain 6-12-7 Miss C Metcalfe (7)
3 /23- AMADEUS 476 M Hammond 8-12-7 ... C Bonner (3)
4 -P54 NIAD 15P R Johnson 12-12-7 ... P Johnson (5)
5 3121 QUAYSIDE COTTAGE 23P (S) B Morley 8-12-7 ... W Wilson (5)
6 1P/P BIRTLEY GIRL 24 (G) D Hutchinson 12-12-2 ... R Hale (5)
7 P-04 SARDNA SMITH 16P (G) F Walton 9-12-2 ... J Walton
8 -P41 STILTOOO 16P (G) C Wilson 9-12-2 ... C Mulhall (7)
9 1UP- WIRE LASS 324 (F) R Robson 12-12-2 ... R Morgan (7)

2-1 Admission, 7-2 Amadeus, 4-1 Across The Card, 5-1 Quayside Cottage, 7-1 Stiltoodo, 12-1 Wire Lass, 20-1 others.

4.40 RETAILERS MAIDEN OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div I: £1,312: 2m) (13)

1 0 BORIS BROOK 37 R Allan 5-11-6 ... S Melrose (7)
2 0 COOLTON HILL 72 J Wade 5-11-6 ... K Jones
3 05 DINGLE WOOD 12 S Jefferies 6-11-6 ... P Niven
4 6 I'M THE MAN 7 Mrs E Slack 5-11-6 ... J Davidson (7)
5 00 RUM REBEL 38 F Walton 5-11-6 ... J Walton
6 SELDOM SEEN J Brown 5-11-6 ... Mr T Scott
7 SPECTRE J Oliver 5-11-6 ... B Storey
8 0 BITTER MOON 129 N Chamberlain 5-11-1 Miss C Metcalfe (7)
9 JOE LUKE G Moore 4-11-0 ... J Callaghan
10 2 PRIMITIVE HEART 7 H Johnson 4-11-0 ... P Carberry
11 U6 ROBERT THE BRAVE 42 (V

Schoolboy referee asserts his authority over men twice his age

Pupil takes charge on rugby field

By Alison Kervin

THE woman who answered the telephone in Ben Chapelard's dormitory could not hide her enthusiasm for the school's new prodigy. "He's a very talented young man," she said, the enthusiasm dripping from her voice. "He is doing his A levels here at Sir Roger Manwood School and he speaks two languages."

Chapelard's bilingualism and academic prowess are indeed most worthy, but his greatest distinction and the reason for his celebrity status at school, is his skill as a rugby referee.

At 19, he is the youngest referee on the Kent Society books. This Saturday, he faces his biggest test as he referees a match between the second XVs of two clubs in London II. For a 19-year-old who

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

is still at school, the pressures of trying to command respect from men twice his age must be enormous, but Chapelard is undeterred.

"I might be only 19, but out there they call me Sir," he said. "You have to take control. Referees have got to have leadership qualities. The first excuse that arises for blowing up, I do. I use it to assert myself."

Chapelard started refereeing after deciding that he would not progress significantly as a player. After acquiring the Rugby Football Union preliminary coaching award, he wrote to Twickenham to inquire about refereeing courses, and the school contacted the Kent Referee Society. It had no reservations about him refereeing despite his tender years and, 18 months ago, he signed up for a Pilkington young referees course. The programme involved him successfully officiating ten 15-a-side games over a three-month period, as well as acting as a touch judge in an adult match.

He also sat an examination in which he had to solve 100 theoretical situations in 40 minutes. His score of 87.5 was the second-highest in the country on that paper. He then began his refereeing career in earnest.

"The first game I ever refereed was at school," he said. "Our under-14s played and, although I was new to it, it wasn't difficult because it was all one-way traffic, so it was easy to referee. The hardest games are the ones which are closer. I've also found that it's much harder to referee your own age-group than it is to referee adults. Adults eventually just put up with me, children take longer to learn."

Chapelard is keen to assert himself as a "no-nonsense" referee and thinks that his ability to spot and deal with foul play is one of his biggest strengths.

"My conscience makes it impossible for me to cop out on foul play," he said. "You need to be a disciplinarian in this game. Too many referees are so keen to make it an attractive game that they let some things go.

"A good referee is fair and consistent. Players say that consistency is the most important thing of all. I think a good referee is someone who can adapt his refereeing to the game while staying fair so that, at the end of the game, everyone can come off the field having enjoyed it.

"I view myself as the 31st playmaker, but the players are in charge of the game — everything I do is in response to them. I suppose I'm like an A-level examiner. The players write the game and I go and mark it — correct it where it's gone wrong."

Chapelard's sophisticated insight and analysis of the art of refereeing has earned him considerable respect in the sport. He has been told that he has an inbuilt authority that earns him immediate attention, and he has an ability to assess the game that is rare in someone so young.

"When I referee, I try to ensure enjoyment for all, respect for the opposition and gentlemanly conduct," he said. "I make sure that no one is stupid, and that the game is played with the right spirit — for example, players clapping each other off the field.

"Players just don't realise how hard it is to referee. They don't realise that you have good days and bad days like they do. It's also hard at first because refereeing is all about opinion, which puts a lot of pressure on you. For example, a few weeks ago, I sent someone off and it ruined my weekend. The player concerned had broken someone's nose. I looked confident, and people said that I did the right thing, but I still found it hard."

Chapelard rates Derek Bevan and Ed Morrison as two of the referees whom he admires most, and his twin goals are to referee with Bevan's no-nonsense approach and have a crack at his record of having refereed more internationals than any other official.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Chapelard sharpens his refereeing skills during a match at Sir Roger Manwood School, where he is an A-level student

Memory of lows eclipsed by highs

BT Global Challenge

THE TIMES

Lucy Duncan, the winner of one of two berths reserved by The Times *on the BT Global Challenge, describes her first training sail, and the good and bad moments of life at sea, as she prepares for the start of the 30,000-mile yacht race. Her lack of a yachting background does little to deter her from the rigours that await in what promises to be a stern struggle against the prevailing winds and currents.*

Seasickness was not something that had crossed my mind. Childhood memories of holidays on the ferry to the Isles of Scilly are of everyone else being sick but not me. I was thus feeling pretty smug last week when I volunteered to go below on board the BT Global Challenge training yacht, to sort out a sail change. Luckily, the "heads" (toilet) is right next to the sail locker, which was just as well, because I succumbed like everyone else.

My four-day "induction sail" was an eye-opener and a big step forward in my preparations for the race, which starts from Southampton in September when 14 identical yachts will set sail on what, for all of us, will be the adventure of a lifetime. On board in Plymouth, I found myself part of a motley collection of other "late starters". One of my biggest fears had been that my lack of sailing experience would make me a liability on a 67-foot racing yacht. This does not seem to be the case, with a lot of people on the same steep learning curve as me.

The first two days at sea were perfect, light winds giving us the ideal opportunity to get to know the boat. We were also introduced to the "man overboard" drill, which includes the golden rule "don't go overboard in the first place". Judged by the time it took our novice crew to pick up our "man" — a flag, not a human — the rule is a sound one.

Having been lulled into a false sense of security for the first two days, the third brought the reality of rough weather. The wind reached force five — a mere breeze compared to what we are going to get in the Southern Ocean — but it rendered breakfast superfluous.

One fellow crew, Paul, was not as lucky as I had been in the sail locker. While sitting in a fold in the mainsail, trying to attach a rope to the boom, he inquired of the skipper if this was a good place to be sick. The reply in the negative was too late.

I found managing the huge winches very tiring. A few months ago a midwifery colleague, noticing my rather puny arms, suggested that press-ups should be part of my preparation for "the world's toughest yacht race". I wish I had taken her advice. It was not until trying to change gear on the drive home that I realised just how stiff my arms were.

There was a general sigh of relief when we retreated behind the breakwater at Plymouth harbour after our last day's sailing. I have never appreciated a hot shower so much, though I fear these will be in short supply in the Roaring Forties.

Lesley, another of the crew, summed it up by comparing it to having a baby — particularly apt given my experiences delivering hundreds of them. At the time, you think "never again" but, when it is over, you remember only the good things and, before you know it, you decide to do it again.

Duncan: "going back for more"

Martin Ley, the training skipper, told us that sailing is always like this. The highs are high and the lows are grim, but the highs make it worthwhile. During our week, the highs were fantastic: watching a total lunar eclipse from the Fal estuary, the feeling of companionship with people I had known for four days, and the fulfilment of having done some real ocean sailing — albeit only ten miles from Plymouth. I will definitely be going back for more.

Court of Appeal — Law Report April 15 1996 — Court of Appeal

When facts were known for action

Busby v Cooper

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Ward and Lord Justice Schiemann

[Judgment April 2]

Section 14A of the Limitation Act 1980, inserted by section 1 of the Latent Damage Act 1986, applicable to a negligence claim not involving personal injuries where the relevant facts were not known at the date the cause of action accrued, provided by subsection (4)(a) one overall time limit in which the claim could be brought, and an extension of that primary period if the provisions of subsection (4)(b) were applicable.

Accordingly, where a claimant sought leave to add another party as a defendant to the action after expiry of the primary period but before expiry of the secondary period in subsection (4)(b), the court had jurisdiction to order a trial by way of preliminary issue in respect of any challenge or dispute by the other party as to whether the plaintiff did or did not have the requisite knowledge.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing the appeal of the plaintiff, Susan Margaret Busby, against the dismissal by Mr Justice Auld on December 19, 1994, of her appeal from the decision of District Judge Vincent in Truro District Registry on August 26 to set aside his own order of April 11 granting the plaintiff leave to amend the writ and statement of claim to add Mr Anthony J. Lumby as a third defendant to the action.

The plaintiff began proceedings in October 1992 and claimed, as freehold owner of a dwelling in Camborne, Cornwall, purchased in November 1986, damages against the first defendant, Mr M. S. Cooper, a mining archivist, for negligent advice and/or breach of contract in respect of a concrete analysis report he made in October 1986 prior to her purchase, and against the second defendant, Abbey National plc, that they negligently recommended the first defendant as a suitable specialist. Nothing turned on the claim against the first two defendants.

The primary period of limitation expired in November 1992. The plaintiff applied in April 1994 to amend her claim by adding the third defendant on the allegation that he negligently advised the second defendant in October 1986 that the first defendant's report was acceptable for the purposes of the second defendant granting a loan.

She claimed the starting date for section 14A purposes was May 1991 when she first acquired the requisite knowledge, and thus she could avail herself of the secondary period in subsection (4)(b).

The Court of Appeal agreed to assume that service of the amended pleadings on the third defendant was effected before expiry of the secondary period.

Mr Stephen Lowry for the plaintiff; Mr Ian Holtum for the third defendant.

LORD JUSTICE HIRST said that Mr Justice Auld had held that section 14A(4) of the 1980 Act stipulated two time limits and that the proposed joinder of the third defendant was outside the primary limitation period, which had expired, and was therefore caught by section 35(3) of the 1980 Act.

Joinder of the defendant would deprive him of the primary limitation defence. Thus the proper procedure for the plaintiff was to start proceedings against him in a separate action.

His Lordship said that the note to section 14A(4) in *The Supreme Court Practice 1995* (volume 2 p1878) correctly stated that the section had been inserted by the 1986 Act to avoid the injustice which might occur where a cause of action accrued by reason of the existence of damage without the plaintiff being aware of it, and the lapse of the primary limitation period would ordinarily bar the right to bring an action.

The final paragraph of the note in *The Supreme Court Practice 1995* (at p1879), stated that where the question whether the plaintiff did or did not have the requisite knowledge turned on disputed questions of fact, the issue should be tried either at trial or by way of preliminary issue: *Iron Trades Mutual Insurance Co Ltd v J. K. Buckenham Ltd* ([1990] 1 All ER 808).

His Lordship accepted Mr Lowry's construction of section 14A(4) as laying down one overall time limit, since it was quite clear that subparagraph (b) expressly identified an extension of the primary limitation period laid down in subparagraph (a), which only came into operation if it expired later than the primary period. That was also consistent with the wording of section 14A(3) which referred to applicable period in the singular.

Mr Holtum, however, relied strongly on the interrelation between section 35(1) and (3): by virtue of section 35(1) leave to amend, if allowed, would result in automatic relation back to the date when the action commenced (October 1992), and thus would prejudice the third defendant on any case on limitation.

Welsh Development Agency v Redpath Dorman Long Ltd ([1994] 1 WLR 1409, 1423, 1425) held that where a plaintiff had such an advantage leave to amend should not be granted.

However, the note in *The Supreme Court Practice 1995* was wrong and the court did not have jurisdiction to order a trial of a preliminary issue on the question of date of knowledge.

The Court of Appeal in the *Welsh Development* case (at p1423) categorised section 35(3) as mandatory. Thus the plaintiff's only proper course was to start afresh.

Mr Lowry relied on the Court of Appeal decision in *Davies v Reed Stock & Co Ltd and Another* ((unreported), July 26, 1984), which he submitted bore a close similarity to the present case, and vindicated the note in *The Supreme Court Practice 1995* as to the court's jurisdiction to direct a preliminary issue to decide whether the action was or was not statute-barred.

His Lordship said that the key to the apparent inconsistency between the two cases was that, until leave to amend was formally granted, there was no question of any amendment and therefore no relation back under section 35(1) or any application of section 35(3).

As in the *Davies* case, leave to amend would not be in issue until resolution of the question of the date of knowledge. The point was not addressed in the *Welsh Development Agency* case, nor did any question of ordering trial of a preliminary issue arise.

There was no inconsistency between the cases and his Lordship had no hesitation in following the *Davies* case and holding that there was jurisdiction to order trial of a preliminary issue as to the date of the requisite knowledge.

His Lordship accepted that in *Howe v David Brown Tractors (Retail) Ltd* ([1991] 4 All ER 30) the Court of Appeal stressed there was a distinction to be drawn in the limitation field between adding a new party to an existing action and starting a fresh action.

Nevertheless, for the reasons already given it was highly desirable that the case against all three defendants should be in one action and it would be deplorable that the plaintiff should embark on the cumbersome course of issuing fresh proceedings.

The proper place for the proposed defendant to challenge the plaintiff on the date of knowledge should have been at the inter partes hearing before the district judge.

Mr Lowry accepted that he could still seek an order for trial of a preliminary issue if a prompt application was made and should he be successful he would not be joined in the plaintiff's action.

Lord Justice Ward and Lord Justice Schiemann gave concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Waller Hart & Mepham, Camborne; S. J. Cornish, Tiverton.

Relying on defendant's assertion

Boss Group Ltd v Boss France SA

Before Lord Justice Russell, Lord Justice Saville and Lord Justice Otton

[Judgment April 2]

A plaintiff who, although denying the existence of a contract, sought declaratory relief in England against a defendant domiciled in another convention state, could establish a good arguable case that there were "matters relating to a contract" so as to satisfy one of the essential prerequisites for jurisdiction under article 5(1) of the Brussels Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters, incorporated in Schedule 1 to the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, by relying on the defendant's own assertion that a contract existed between the parties.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Boss Group Ltd, against the dismissal by Mr Justice Garland on April 12, 1995 of their appeal against Master Eyre's dismissal on March 21, 1995 of their action for declaratory relief against the defendants, Boss France SA.

Article 5 provides: "A person domiciled in a contracting state may, in another contracting state, be sued:— (1) In matters relating to a contract, in the courts for the place of performance of the obligation in question. . ."

Mr David Donaldson, QC and Mr Adrian Briggs for the plaintiffs; Mr Thomas Lowe for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE SAVILLE said that in July 1994 the defendants commenced proceedings in France against the plaintiffs for breach of an exclusive distributorship and obtained an order requiring the plaintiffs to continue to supply them with equipment.

In September 1994 the plaintiffs served an English writ on the defendants seeking, inter alia, a declaration that there was and had been no contract of distributorship between themselves and the defendants.

The defendants issued a summons to set aside or stay the English proceedings, disputing the court's special jurisdiction under article 5(1) of the Brussels Convention.

The French proceedings were of a provisional kind so that the French courts were not "first seised" of the matter so as to require other convention states to decline jurisdiction.

It was no answer to a claim for jurisdiction under article 5(1) that the respondent asserted that no contract ever came into existence: see *Effer v Kantner* ([1982] ECR 825). The word "contract" could not be read as only including cases where the existence of a contract was unchallengeable or unchallenged. There were "matters relating to a contract" in the present case. It was true that the plaintiffs asserted that no such contract existed, but the defendants asserted the contrary: that did not make article 5(1) inapplicable.

Article 5(1) was not confined to actions to enforce a contract or to obtain recompense for its breach to "matters relating to a contract".

The defendants submitted that assertions were not enough: that the plaintiffs had to satisfy the court that there was a good arguable case that the essential prerequisites for jurisdiction existed: and that since the plaintiffs claimed there was no contract it followed that they could not fulfil that requirement.

His Lordship agreed with the premises on which that argument was based but the conclusion did not follow.

Article 5(1) allowed a party to be sued in matters relating to a contract in the courts for the place of performance of the obligation in question. That party in the present case was the defendant company.

It was illogical and wrong for that party to assert that there was a contract and that the plaintiffs had broken it, which the defendants had done in France, relying on article 5(1), while simultaneously contending the contrary in England to avoid the application of article 5(1). The plaintiffs had established a good arguable case that there was a matter relating to a contract by relying on the fact that that was what the defendants contended against them.

If article 5(1) applied, it was the duty of the court to apply it: jurisdiction under the Brussels Convention was not a matter of discretion, nor did it depend on considerations of forum conveniens.

The English courts looked very carefully at proceedings for negative declarations. That did not mean, however, that caution in that regard could be used as a substantive ground for declining jurisdiction under the Convention, for that would derogate from the Convention.

It did mean that the court would be astute in such cases to prevent the article from being used in frivolous or vexatious cases, just as it was astute to stop summarily cases where the plaintiff seeking to establish a contract could not show that there was a serious issue which called for a trial for its proper determination: see *Tesum v Schuh* ([1990] 1 L Pr 149, 158).

The plaintiffs' proceedings were not objectionable on those grounds.

Lord Justice Russell and Lord Justice Otton agreed.

Solicitors: Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering; D. J. Freeman.

Council has duty to act on pollution

Regina v Carrick District Council, Ex parte Shelley and Another

Before Mr Justice Carnwath

[Judgment April 3]

A local authority failed in its statutory duty when it resolved not to take any action in regard to complaints of pollution of the local beaches but merely to monitor the situation.

Mr Justice Carnwath so held in the Queen's Bench Division when granting an application by Rachel Shelley and Sara Caroline Delaney for judicial review of a resolution dated June 20, 1995 of the environmental and community services committee of Carrick District Council declining to serve an abatement notice under section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 in respect of the beach at Porthtowan, North Cornwall.

Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Michael Fordham for the applicants; Mr Rhodri Price-Lewis for the council; Mr David Lloyd Jones for South West Water Authority.

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that Porthtowan had been popular because of its attractive bay and sandy beach, good for surfing. There had for some years been complaints of sewage related debris finding its way to the beach.

There were two outfalls in the vicinity, both owned by South West Water Authority, the closest being Portreath serving Redruth, and North Cliffs serving Camborne. North Cliffs was unscreened. Portreath was screened in 1991.

A two-year survey of beaches in 1990-91 by the National Rivers Authority placed Porthtowan in the worst of four categories depending on the degree of contamination by sewage related debris. There had been no comparable survey since 1991 to assess the effect of the screening. During 1995 an average of one kilogram per day wet weight of sewage related material was collected, including sanitary towels and condoms which users of the beach found offensive.

There was pressure on the council, led by a body called Surfers against Sewage, for action including action by the district council under the 1990 Act.

The senior principal environmental health officer assembled evidence for submission to the environmental and community services committee on the condition of the beach. A report was prepared for the meeting of June 20, 1995, leading to the resolution which was under challenge.

The committee resolved not to take action under the Act but to continue monitoring.

Under section 79(1)(c) of the Act the council had a duty to investigate "any accumulation or deposit which is prejudicial to health or a nuisance". Under section 80 once it was found that a statutory nuisance existed, the council had a duty, not a discretion, to serve a notice either requiring abatement or requiring steps to be taken.

There was no decision of the committee that there was or was not a statutory nuisance, simply a decision that it was not "appropriate" to serve a notice. That was a word which implied an exercise of discretion rather than a judgment of fact.

The resolution did not comply with the council's duty under section 80. It was fine as far as it went but it did not deal with the critical issue. A declaration was granted that the resolution was not a valid discharge of the council's duty. The council was under an obligation to reconsider.

Solicitors: Leigh Day & Co; Mrs D. R. M. H. Hayes, Truro; Mr J. C. Jelley, Exeter.

No local connection

Regina v Westminster City Council, Ex parte Benniche

A homeless person with priority need and who was a devout Muslim had not established a local connection with Westminster, for the purposes of sections 61 and 67 of the Housing Act 1985, because of his wish to be able to attend regularly, preferably on a daily basis, the Central London Mosque and to be near a Muslim school.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Schiemann and Sir Ralph Gibson) so held on March 20 upholding Mr Justice Dyson's refusal in November 1995 of Mr Kamal Benniche's application for judicial review of the decision of Westminster City Council to reject his claim to have a local connection in its district. The housing application was referred to Elmbridge Council.

LORD JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said that before moving to Elmbridge the applicant and his wife attended the mosque at least once a day and at weekends. They wanted their children to attend the Islamia School in Brent.

"Local connection", defined in section 61 of the 1985 Act was considered in *R v Eastleigh BC, Ex parte Betts* ([1983] 2 AC 613).

The judge rightly decided that the council was manifestly entitled to its view that the applicant, able to visit the mosque, although not as frequently as he wished, when living in Elmbridge, had no local connection with Westminster for the purposes of the 1985 Act.

Time in jail abroad

Regina v Curtis Howard

Discretionary life prisoners who had served time in custody in a foreign jurisdiction awaiting extradition should be entitled to have that period taken into account in specifying the tariff period under the Criminal Justice Act 1991.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division (Lord Justice Otton, Mr Justice McKinnon and Mr Justice Keene) so held in a reserved judgment on March 18 when reducing the tariff period specified under section 34 of the 1991 Act of the discretionary life sentence for manslaughter passed on Curtis Howard at Lewes Crown Court (Mr Justice Hidden) from seven to six years.

LORD JUSTICE OTTON said that the appeal related solely to whether or not the 27 months spent in custody abroad awaiting extradition to the United Kingdom should be taken into account when specifying the relevant period under section 34 of the 1991 Act in relation to a discretionary life sentence.

It would be wrong in principle to allow the whole of the time spent abroad to be deducted from the tariff period specified on the ground that the appellant had made "an impudent attempt" (see *R v Scalise and Rachel* ((1985) 7 Cr App R (S) 395, 397)) to avoid extradition by making a number of applications and appeals while in custody in the USA.

Accordingly their Lordships concluded that the appropriate order was to allow 12 of the 27 months.

Grounds needed

Regina v Howes

No application for leave to cross-examine a rape victim could properly be made unless defence counsel had instructions which provided reasonable grounds for his assertions.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division (Lord Justice Evans, Mr Justice Kay and Judge Gibbon) so held in a reserved judgment on March 28, when dismissing the appeal against conviction of Joseph Michael Angelo Howes on July 24, 1995, at Gloucester Crown Court (Judge Hutton and a jury) on 10 charges of indecent assault and indecency. He was sentenced to a total of nine years imprisonment.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said that when leave to cross-examine a complainant was sought under section 2 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968, as amended by the Criminal Appeal Act 1995, although the defence need not show that they had in their possession evidence to prove the correctness of their assertion, there had to be some other basis on which it could be shown that the questions would be properly asked, for otherwise counsel would have an undefined right to embark on an inquiry of the kind which section 2 was designed to prevent.

At paragraph 610(h) of the *Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales* (1990, 4th amendment 1994) the suggestion sought to be made must appear to be supported by reasonable grounds.

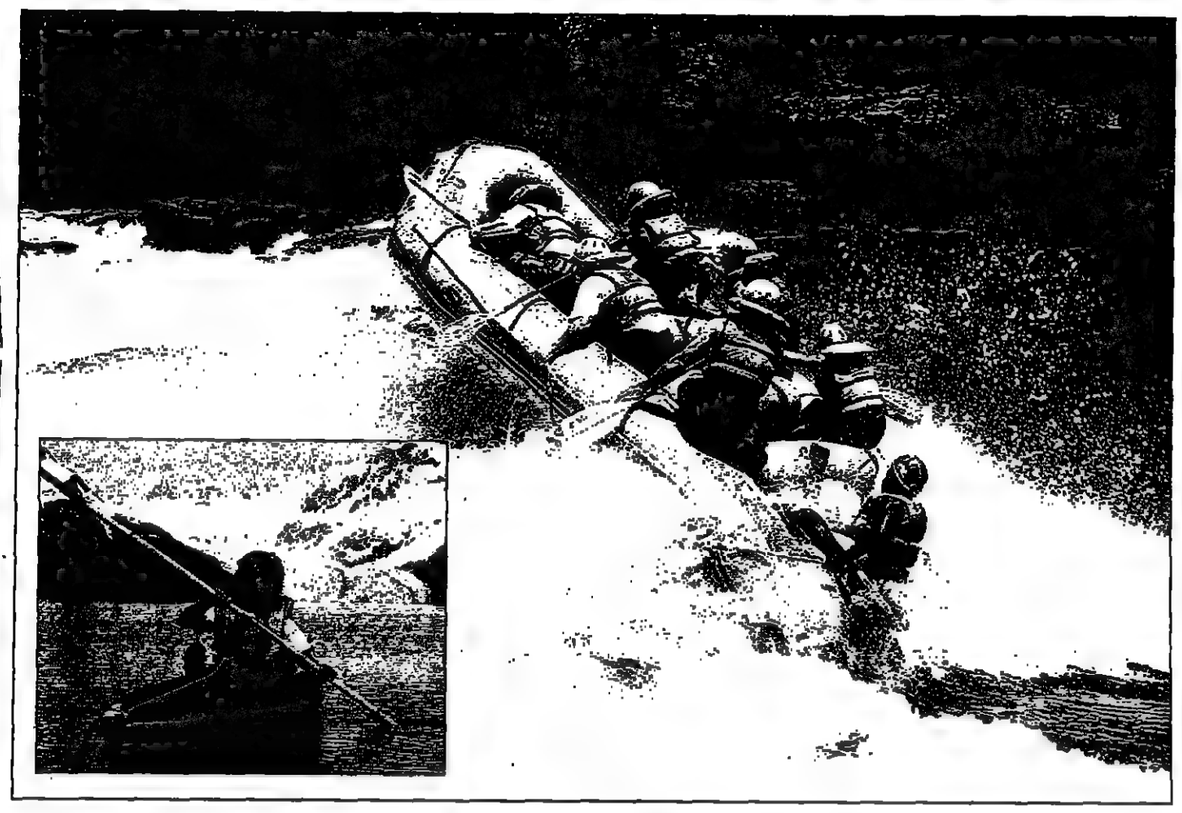
START COLLECTI
Win for
holidays includ
mountain bik
kids of Moroc
a 20-day trekk
holiday in Nepa
elephant trekk
cruising the Riv
Thailand
exploring the
angle by foot a
an overland
through Europe
Middle East an
white-water
Save up with ou
TIMES £15 EXODUS ADVENTURE HOLIDAY DISCOUNT VOUCHER 1

START COLLECTING OUR HOLIDAY DISCOUNT VOUCHERS TODAY FOR HUGE SAVINGS ON ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS

Win an adventure holiday for two every year for life

Holidays include:

- mountain biking in the wilds of Morocco
- a 20-day trekking holiday in Nepal
- elephant trekking and cruising the River Kwai in Thailand
- exploring the Amazon jungle by foot and canoe
- an overland trip through Europe, the Middle East and Asia
- white-water rafting



Imagine going white-water rafting in Nepal or Peru, bungee jumping at Victoria Falls, riding across a river in Thailand on the back of an elephant or cycling in Vietnam. Only in your dreams?

Not any more because today *The Times*, in association with Exodus Travels, gives you the chance to win an adventure holiday for two people every year for the rest of your life from a choice of more than 200 adrenalin-pumping holidays in 65 countries, worth up to £1,000 each.

And as a reader of *The Times* you can enjoy substantial savings of up to £250 on many of the holidays we will be featuring by taking advantage of our discount vouchers below.

Over the next three weeks we will transport you to some of the most exciting places on earth: along the Silk Road, on expeditions to Kathmandu, swimming with sea lions in the Galapagos, and joining the locals at the festival of Timqat in Ethiopia.

We will show you how you could explore the remote region of Kamchatka in Siberia by helicopter and truck or climb to the Everest base 17,000 feet up in the Himalayas.

But not all our action-packed adventure holidays require you to be in peak condition. Iran, Bhutan or Mongolia, to name but a few, will not leave you breathless, except when you look at the view.

There are holidays ranging from one week or 31 weeks. You can camp in deserts and jungles or stay in comfortable hotels or modest mountain lodges. You can travel by plane, train, bus and canoe.

Even if you choose well-known destinations like Mallorca or Tuscany, you will be surprised at the adventures you can have off the beaten track. What you are guaranteed with these holidays is to be miles and miles away from it all, where you will meet only local people, not other tourists.

The winner of our adventure holidays for life will be chosen in a prize draw. All you have to do is collect 15 out of 18 tokens which will be published in *The Times* until May 4 and send them to us on an official entry form.

For your chance to win an adventure holiday for life for two, collect 15 of the 18 adventure tokens which will appear every day in *The Times* from today until May 4, 1996. Send them with the completed entry form to: *The Times*/Exodus Adventure Holidays Prize Draw, 16, Whitefriars St, London, EC4B 2NG. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, May15, 1996.

The prize draw competition is open to all Times readers over 18. (Anyone over 65, or 45 on certain holidays over 31 days' duration, must satisfy Exodus Travels they are capable of taking part on their chosen holiday.) The winner will be chosen at random from all entries received before the closing date of May 15, 1996.There is no cash alternative either in the case of the winner not taking a holiday in any one year, or not taking another person. The prize is not transferable. The winner's choice of holiday will be subject to availability. The prize holiday can only be taken once in any one calendar year. The prize draw is only open to UK residents.

THE TIMES
WIN AN
EXODUS
The Different Holiday
ADVENTURE HOLIDAY FOR LIFE
TOKEN 1

ADVENTURE HOLIDAY PRIZE DRAW ENTRY FORM

Please enter me into your prize draw with the chance to win a holiday for two every year for the rest of my life. I enclose 15 differently numbered Adventure Holidays for Life tokens. Send this form to: *The Times* /Exodus Adventure Holidays Prize Draw, 16, Whitefriars St, London, EC4B 2NG. Closing date for entries is May15, 1996.

Mr/Mrs/Other..... Initials .....
BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Surname .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode ..... Home phone .....

It would help us if you answered these four questions:

1. Which of the following age groups do you fall into? (Please tick box)
[1] 15-24 [2] 25-34 [3] 35-44 [4] 45-54 [5] 55-64 [6] 65+
2. Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (4-6 copies) during the week? _____
3. Which national daily newspaper(s) do you buy occasionally (3 copies or less) during the week? _____
4. Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy regularly (2-4 copies a month)? _____

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further offers from *The Times* or associated companies [ ]

Save up to £250 on holidays with our discount vouchers

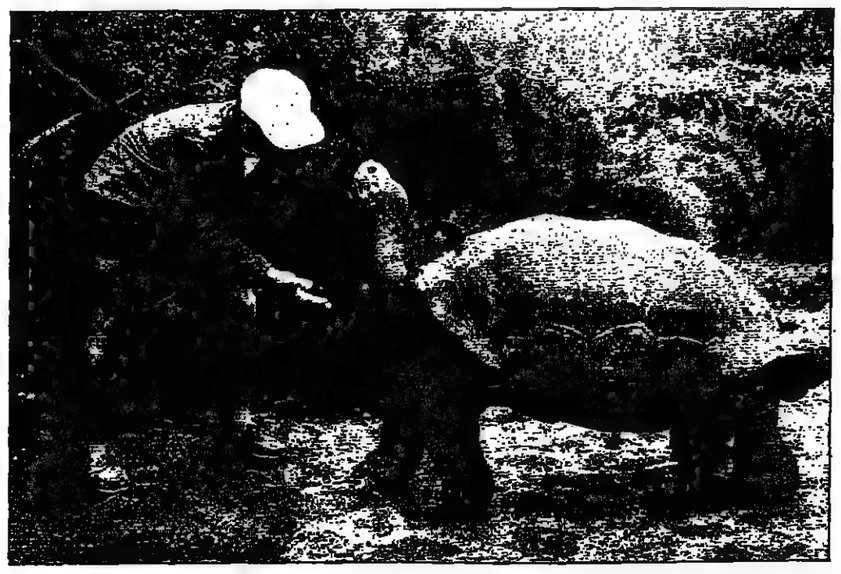
Readers of *The Times* are offered substantial savings on the cost of Exodus Travels adventure holidays by collecting our discount vouchers.

Starting today, and continuing until Saturday May 4, we will be publishing a total of 18 Adventure Holiday discount vouchers. The vouchers published this week will add up to £75. Next week we will print another £75 worth of vouchers and in week three £100 worth of vouchers will appear — giving you a possible saving on your holiday of £250.

Vouchers adding up to £75 can be redeemed against any Exodus Holiday of seven days or more in duration and these six vouchers will entitle you to £75 off any holiday you choose.

The second week's six vouchers are also worth a total of £75 and these, together with the vouchers from week one, add up to a £150 saving which can be offset against any holiday of 15 days and over.

The six vouchers which will appear in week three will be worth a total £100 and, with the rest of the vouchers, will add up to a total of up to £250 which can be used against the cost of any holiday of 22 days or over taken with Exodus Travels.



HOW TO APPLY FOR YOUR DISCOUNT

To claim your discount from Exodus Travels you must attach the vouchers to the official booking form selected from one of the company's brochures when you book your holiday. The vouchers must accompany the completed booking form and cannot be sent in at a later date. The discount vouchers will not be validated retrospectively.

THE TIMES
£15
EXODUS
The Different Holiday
ADVENTURE HOLIDAY DISCOUNT VOUCHER 1
VALUE: 0.0001p

DISCOUNT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This discount offer applies to any holiday in the four Exodus 1996 brochures (Overland Expeditions, Discovery Holidays, Biking Adventures and Walking Holidays) booked before December 31, 1996 on bookings made direct with Exodus. The offer applies to UK residents only, cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount offers and applies to new bookings only.

The vouchers have no cash value (value 0.0001p) and there is no cash alternative. Only one set of vouchers per client per booking allowed. No photocopied vouchers will be accepted. Age and fitness guidelines apply to certain holidays. All readers who wish to take an Exodus Travels holiday must have suitable travel-holiday insurance. All bookings made with *Times* vouchers must be made with Exodus Travels directly and not through any third party. All bookings are subject to availability. All clients must read and sign Exodus Travels' booking form (available on request from Exodus) before their booking can be accepted. Exodus Travels' usual booking conditions will apply to all holidays.

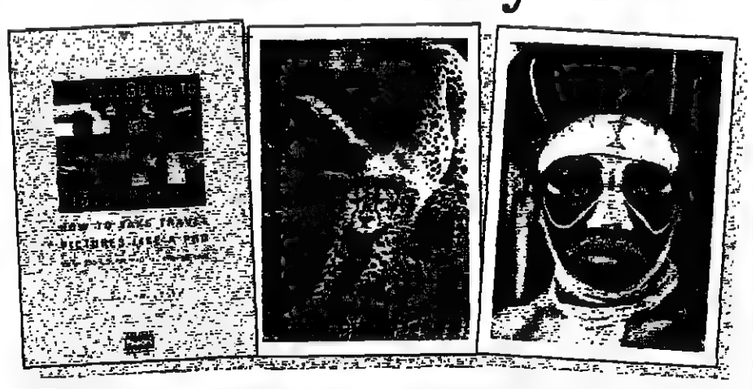
HOLIDAY DURATION	MAXIMUM DISCOUNT
7-14 Days	up to £75
15-21 Days	up to £150
22 Days+	up to £250

Exodus is the UK's leading adventure travel company with more than 20 years' experience of organising small group safaris, overland expeditions and Mountain walking holidays throughout the world. Exodus is a fully ATOL licensed and bonded tour operator and a member of AITO, the Association of Independent Tour Operators. Exodus Travels Ltd, 9 Weir Road, London SW12 0LT or call: 0181-675 5550.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE HOLIDAYS CALL 0181 675 5550

AN AUTHORITATIVE GUIDE ILLUSTRATED WITH 250 COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

A £12.99 Fodor's Guide to Shooting Great Travel Pictures for only £1.50



The Times has joined with Fodor's to offer you an indispensable guide to getting the best from your holiday photographs. The 214-page colour guide, normally £12.99, is available at £1.50 to cover postage and packaging.

It gives essential tips and no-nonsense advice on the following photographic themes and subjects: landscapes, architecture, portraits and animals; shooting conditions including humidity, rain, dramatic lighting; compositional devices such as horizon placement and frames-within-frames; and camera technique with tips on exposure, depth of field, filters and camera choice.

SAVE 25% ON TRAVEL GUIDES.

You can also enjoy a 25% discount off the cost of any other Fodor's Gold Guide by placing an order through Stanfords' mail order service or visiting one of its three London shops.

Fodor's is the world's leading publisher of travel guides to the US and over 200 other countries, regions and major cities worldwide. The Gold Guides feature information on all aspects of travel including the best accommodation, restaurants, shopping and sightseeing as well as comprehensive maps and complete driving and walking tours.

Stanfords is the world's finest map and travel booksellers, with over 30,000 titles to choose from. The offer applies until the end of April. Simply call the mail order hotline number 0171-836 1321 to claim your discount and for details of the Fodor's Guide best suited to your holiday plans. A charge of £1.50 per book to cover postage and packaging will be applied to mail orders.

HOW TO GET YOUR GUIDE

Collect four Fodor's tokens appearing in *The Times* this week and send them to the address on the order form which appeared on Saturday. Enclose a cheque/PO for £1.50 to cover p&p. Orders must be received by April 30. The offer is subject to availability.

THE TIMES
Fodor's
TOKEN 2

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,055.70	Allied Domecq	688	- 14	6.0	17.7
209.40	Bulmer (HP)	629		2.6	19.5
70.60	Bass "Shares"	119	+ 2	5.3	25.3
8,396.10	Guinness Met	429	+ 15	4.3	18.5
8,873.90	Gallaher†	461	+ 3½	4.0	15.7
434.80	Highland Dist	364	+ 3	2.8	16.8
200.80	Macallan-Glen	171	+ 3	1.1	
66.70	Macon Mkt 'A'	633		2.2	17.8
672.00	Mulliner Dim	761	+ 36	3.6	
11.20	Morgan W	103		2.4	
5,706.50	J.E. Seagram	1937½	- 25	1.8	20.9

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9,836.60	ABN-AMRO	3240½	- 43½	4.4	
7,539.70	Abbey Ntl	570	+ 7	4.8	10.9
1,247.60	Allied Irish	334	- 6	4.3	
4,198.80	Aust New Z	320	+ 1	5.7	
16,910.00	Bank America	4831½	- 40½		
2,993.00	Bank Scotland	253	- 1	3.0	11.2
11,587.60	Barclays†	732	+ 9	4.4	9.6
2,111.50	B of Ireland	436	- 6	3.9	8.8
140.70	Carr Allen	444	- 4	8.4	7.3
24,470.30	Citicorp	50083½	- 281½		
449.20	Close Bros†	363	- 8	3.1	16.1
5,328.90	Commerzbk	3148½	- 28½	3.5	
40,783.60	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1287½	+ 37½	0.4	
15,598.20	Deutsche Bk	3278½	- 16½	2.2	
169.80	Espirito Santo	793½	- 9½	4.6	10.4
40,044.20	Fuji Bank Y	1382	- 12½	0.4	
196.60	Gerrard Nat	402		7.0	13.0
426.30	Hambros	241	- 10	3.9	
8,635.80	HSBC†	1003	- 8	4.0	11.6
17,466.00	HSBC Hld	984	- 17	4.1	11.4
301.00	Irish Permt	395		3.3	
40.90	King Shaxson	155		7.3	12.0
23.90	Lloyds(A)	458		6.2	15.5
16,385.60	Lloyds TSB†	322	+ 6	3.0	17.3
8,847.40	Nat Aust Bk	581	+ 4	7.5	7.4
11,294.00	Nat West†	637	- 9	5.0	8.9
24.00	Rea Brothers†	58		2.1	
4,063.10	Rgl Bk Scot	501	+ 7	4.0	11.3
1,646.70	Schroders†	1323	+ 33	1.8	17.1
493.40	Schroders N/V	985	+ 35	2.0	13.8
305.40	Singer & Friedl	104	+ 2	4.9	8.1
6,093.60	Standard Chartd†	625		2.2	13.7
27.30	Unoval	110		1.8	
15,890.50	Wells Fargo	7163	- 81½	1.9	
6,001.30	Westpac	3175½	- 4½	4.6	10.6
29.00	Wintrust	300		4.9	17.2

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
4.56	Abrdn Sch Hld	38			6.3
16.20	Aspel Hldgs	334			0.7
6,703.20	Bass	760	- 11	3.7	17.5
11.00	Bk for Inv Bdr	46	- 1	4.5	12.0
34.20	Bartomed Inv	167	- 3	4.0	16.2
197.20	Cay Centre Rest	197	- 2	1.7	
1,709.40	Compass Gp	543	+ 3	1.7	24.0
49.90	Eldridge P. A'ct	240	- 9	2.4	22.1
98.60	Falk Cas 'A' Cl	476		2.5	16.9
1,740.50	Greenalls Grp	980	+ 9	3.0	15.0
281.10	Grnwc King	663	+ 26	2.1	16.3
33.80	Grosvenor Inns	291		1.0	34.6
40.80	Grange Chic Cert	218	+ 12	1.5	22.1
64.20	Hardy Hsctn	321	- 1	3.9	13.0
4.87	Hazelwood	210		3.5	
104.60	Heal J	3375		5.0	18.1
70.00	Hilton	329	+ 6	2.7	16.2
307.50	Mitchn Thrnp	342	- 1	2.7	16.1
181.00	Mowlem	153	+ 1	2.2	16.8
35.00	Mr Kinda Tavern	139	+ 1	2.7	13.7
6.52	Paramount†	5½		5.0	8.8
101.90	Pelican Gp	128	+ 12	1.5	23.2
193.80	Pizza Express	346	+ 2	0.8	35.5
28.90	Ransctons (H)	326		1.9	34.4
157.10	Regent Inns†	970	- 35	1.0	30.4
407.0	Scot & Newc	664	+ 17	3.5	17.9
93.70	Tom Cobleigh	210	+ 4½	1.6	34.1
383.70	Vntr Group	380	- 4	4.4	15.6
343.00	Wetherspoon (JD)	891	- 43	1.2	31.1
1,641.40	Whitbread	712½	+ 10½	3.6	17.6
440.90	Wolverhmptn O	690	+ 4	2.8	16.0
157.00	Yates Rest	288	- 4	1.0	35.4
15.20	Young A'	523	- 6	3.6	21.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5.78	AAF Inds	39			
67.80	Abbey	175	+ 10	3.7	11.3
84.20	Alno	253	- 1	2.9	19.0
226.20	Amec	111½	- 9½	3.4	
39.60	Andrew Sykes	280	+ 3	1.8	
250.10	Ashlead	181	- 2	1.8	15.6
11.30	Avenside	32	+ 2	3.8	
2.60	Bailey (Ben) Con	27		3.7	11.0
19.90	Barcom	42	+ 3	0.9	
500.60	Barratt Devel	277	+ 23½	3.8	15.8
484.60	Beazer Homes†	301	+ 14	3.7	16.3
298.40	Bellway	302	+ 10	3.2	14.5
4.97	Bellwinch	19			
5,522.70	Bemrose Gp	552		1.8	17.0
31.30	Bett Bros	142	- 3	4.8	5.1
56.70	Bovis (Henry)	210		4.3	9.8
28.70	Brandon Hire	116	+ 1	2.5	18.8
5.70	Bulmers Gp	35		8.0	4.9
4.15	Br Ridg & Eng	37			
558.40	Brycelt	138	+ 8	4.9	15.5
40.10	CALA†	93		4.4	10.1
2.90	Campbell & Arm	16			12.7
5.41	Clarke, TT	44	- 2½	11.6	
37.10	Carlisle	41	- 2		
59.70	Countryside	73	+ 1	4.8	
70.30	Cwd Rutherford	27	- 2½	3.2	
15.90	Cussins	78	- 3	6.3	
16.70	Dyc Group	170		6.6	9.2
17.80	Galliford	101½	- ½	6.4	12.3
85.60	Glendale (RJ)	848	- 3	3.3	15.6
3.90	Grant (Hmsh)	51		9.8	
84.70	Hawkins Cons	322	+ 8	1.2	27.1
423.70	Hewden-Stuart	153	+ 4	3.9	
66.90	Higgs & Hill	101	+ 11	3.1	
4.75	Holland Hldgs	18		5.6	16.4
17.30	Jarvis	47½	- 1½		
82.90	Kellett	148	+ 3	3.6	
145.50	Lang (JI)	317	+ 16	3.5	
45.60	Lang & Ch Cv Pf	114	+ 6½	7.0	
7.16	Lovell (YJ)	18	+ 2		
51.20	Marshalls (JI)	205	- 2	3.5	12.9
126.50	McAlpine (A)	183	+ 5	4.9	
30.80	McCarthy & S	92	+ 5	2.7	12.8
12.10	Morgan Sindall†	101	+ 3	3.3	
98.80	Morrison Const	147	+ 9	3.6	14.4
152.10	Mowlem (J)	87	- 1	1.1	
398.60	Persimmon†	226	+ 9	5.5	17.9
13.80	Pochin	113		1.2	11.4
94.50	Prosplay	121	+ 1	3.9	16.1
33.90	Rand Ind	16	+ ½		
305.70	Redland	138	+ 5	2.9	15.2
4.99	Sacure Rotec	48	- 3	2.6	9.1
32.50	Sheriff Hldgs†	290		2.0	10.6
4.47	Shorco	71	+ 2	7.0	10.9
121.10	Spandex	379		1.0	
40.40	Sty Homes†	139	+ 9	4.3	13.7
613.80	Taylor Woodrow†	150	+ 5	2.2	23.9
190.10	Tilbury Douglas	444	+ 3	6.4	
7.07	Transcrewshop†	8½		6.4	
10.40	Try Group	15	+ ½	4.2	
43.00	Wavecrest	93	+ ½	5.4	7.0
97.30	Westmorland	93	+ 5	6.1	8.5
20.00	Ward Hldgs	35		4.9	5.7
180.80	Westbury	202	+ 10	3.6	10.0
31.10	Wigfalls	9½			43.9
333.20	Wilson (C)	188	+ 3	3.4	
409.50	Wilson Bowden	436	+ 26	2.9	
547.50	Wimpey (G)	151	+ 11	4.6	

BUILDING MATERIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
9.43	Alumasilon	13			
1,712.00	BPB Ind	338	+ 21	3.4	15.7
39.60	Baggeridge Bck	98	- 1	4.0	17.9
208.80	Bardon	37½	- ½	6.3	
13.30	Blockley	49			11.0
1,871.00	Blue Circle†	384	- 23½	4.3	19.7
77.30	Brendon PLC	96	+ 9	6.5	
21.90	Br Dredging	172		5.7	
2,058.80	CRH†	583	- 1	3.0	15.1
7.80	Calderwood Rfs	46		8.4	
88.70	Capel	164		8.4	11.7
1,319.30	Caradon†	225	+ 17½	5.3	
218.70	Caradon pf	121½	+ 10	7.5	
2.15	Chesshire (Sp)	32		3.0	
3.05	Clyton (JAH)	195		5.1	15.3
11.40	Cyzer A'	81	+ 1	6.2	6.7
14.10	Epwin	204	- 2	5.6	12.8
20.40	Flint	153	- 1		
1.53	Fibres & Chem†	90	+ 1	4.9	9.3
264.00	Hanson Gtd†	199	+ 3	3.8	
127.50	Holcrest (J)	405	+ 1	2.7	17.4
124.40	Horsnell†	297	+ 16	6.2	15.2
4.93	Hunstan	53		9.4	11.2
227.90	Hynd Wmp	215	+ 1	3.7	12.0
194.90	Jacock	70		4.1	11.5
43.30	Johnson	200		3.5	
23.70	Lilleshall†	83		7.3	10.6
457.00	Marley†	126	+ 8	4.3	14.7
313.50	Marshalls†	175	+ 7	3.6	12.4
574.00	Meyer Int	414½	+ 19½	3.5	15.7
172.70	Newarth Tmbs	120		1.1	6.6
150.30	Norcros	88			
76.70	Pacific Tmbrs	216½	+ 10½	2.0	12.2
295.00	Polypipe†	166	- 8	1.8	17.2
1,861.50	RMC Gp	1069	+ 46	2.7	14.6
2,761.60	Redland	403	+ 6	5.5	18.3
19.50	Rexhill	109	- 1	5.4	
66.70	Rubecon†	118	- 9	5.7	
890.20	Ruskin Group†	126	+ 5	3.0	27.9
29.10	Russell (A)†	125	- ½	2.7	
164.90	SGB	229	- 2	5.8	
3.95	SIG†	3½			
15.30	Sharpe & Fisher†	167	- ½	7.0	
30.70	Spring Ram	20	+ ½		
109.10	Steetley† Hldgs	178	- 2	5.5	
1,166.00	Tarmac	176		5.6	
15.20	Tilon	126	- 2	4.3	12.7
446.40	Travis Perkins	435	+ 8	2.7	14.1
160	Tyler	33	+ 3	3.3	14.6
0.78	Waterhouse†	31			
2,993.60	Wolseley	489	+ 31	2.7	16.1

CHEMICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
639.80	Albright & Wil	169	- 4	4.9	
935.00	Allied Colloids	130	- 1	7.5	13.5
39.40	Amtex Ind	188		3.8	12.7
50.40	Amberley Cp	83	- 2	3.0	23.9
10,731.70	BASF (N)	2155½	- 353½	3.9	
1,557.30	BOC	904	+ 29	3.1	16.8
463.00	BTP	264	- 3	4.7	17.1
15,690.30	Bayer (DM)	2326½	- 309½	2.9	
60.20	Brent Chemcl	89		3.8	
448.20	Br Vitaf	304	- 5	4.9	16.5
46.90	Canning (W)	234	+ 6	4.4	14.9
1,813.40	Courtaulds	448	+ 7	4.2	20.5
457.30	Croda	442	+ 1	3.6	
34.50	Deeks	158		3.6	
338.90	Elks & Everard	221		4.0	14.4
31.20	Fine Colour	80	- 3	3.0	19.5
19.60	Gibbon	171	- 10	4.6	12.7
137.20	Hickson	78		3.2	
13,672.40	Hoechst	12311½	- 46½	3.5	
142.00	Holliday Chemcl	137½	- 14	4.5	16.1
6,699.00	ICI†	921	+ 25	4.1	13.8
401.20	Inspec†	345		2.2	16.7
260.70	Laporte†	130	- 3	4.7	
1,344.70	Lagostel	696	- 6	4.1	16.8
114.10	Mondeo†	108	- 2	5.0	15.1
34.10	Morclose	92	- 5	2.2	
7.71	Mortonell	33		4.0	
79.90	Porvair	335		1.7	22.0
577.00	Scapa	230	+ 1	3.3	17.0
49.70	Sutcliffe Speak	32		1.8	40.6
6,789.10	Tokuda Chem	1004½	- 5	0.8	14.0
457.90	Wt Makfine Rt	1095	- 3	2.2	
173.20	Yorks Chem	259	- 4	4.0	
153.90	Yule Catto	349	+ 13	2.9	17.0

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
31.00	ABB Lee	93		5.8	9.7
18.60	Adam & Harvey	438		5.6	5.7
5.64	Alexanders	14			2.7
68.60	Applecrumb†	101		7.5	
9.19	Arc Br Eng	71		2.1	
163.30	BOC Group	631	- 25	4.0	17.8
39.40	Bacal	78			
6.98	Bearing Powers	19½		6.0	13.9
1.76	Bespoke A	25	- 1	2.5	8.6

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
242.40	Bespimar	534	+ 2½	3.4	
5.78	Bridgend Gp	21		1.2	
24.00	Brit Tissues†	101	+ 10½	4.5	
9.94	Caffyns	203		5.1	19.5
37.10	Cavendish	14	+ 1	2.7	
9.23	Central Mtr	71		0.9	
30.40	Charles Stanley	86		5.4	13.4
29.00	Cook (DC)	58		3.7	8.5
571.00	Courtaulds	354	+ 5	3.7	13.3
40.20	Dag Motors	166	+ 11	6.0	
28.90	Dentmaks (I)	163		2.0	14.7
230.90	Diploma	413		4.4	13.4
1,584.30	Electrocomponents	374	+ 9	2.0	25.4
177.00	Eurotib Elec	302		1.9	21.7
11.70	Eurotherm	126	+ 3	3.7	7.6
43.40	European Ms	81	- 2	8.0	6.9
105.60	Evans Halshaw†	329	+ 10	6.3	
1,804.20	Farnell Elect	667	+ 32	1.8	19.4
9.77	Fax Internat	63	+ 2½	0.9	
93.50	Fenner Gp	265	+ 9	2.5	16.8
36.30	Gardner†	24½	+ ½	4.3	9.8
14.60	Glandcester†	55½	- 3½	2.0	
8.10	Greenga	88		4.0	
27.20	Hanis (Philip)	260		3.7	15.9
11.10	Hardtns	51	+ 3½	3.4	
130.40	Healys	644	+ 2	2.3	18.9
4.52	Holders Tech.D	145		5.3	27.5
20.00	Ind Ind	177		1.7	
1,501.30	Inchcape†	286	+ 9	3.9	17.4
4.16	Jacks (Wm)	38		3.5	7.2
389.30	Jardn-Fkh	2131½	- 1½	3.0	14.1
356.30	Lex Service	315	- 4	6.0	11.5
81.40	Lindustry	130		4.0	
22.10	Malaya Gp	13½	- ½	6.3	13.6
48.20	Middlesbrough	8	+ ½	0.8	18.4
21.60	Molestes	41	+ 2		
20.60	Norbrit	535	+ 25	1.8	18.2
47.90	Northumbr	282	+ 36	0.8	22.6
13.10	PCTC	147		6.5	10.5
110.30	Pendragon	267	+ 13	3.9	14.6
42.10	Salisbry	187		5.5	
153.90	Time Products	288		4.8	16.8
5.81	Tower Hlds	35		4.6	18.4
137.40	Vardy (Reg)†	330	+ 3	2.6	16.3
55.00	Wedgwd Figgt	390	+ 30	3.8	35.7
35.10	Wolstan	37½	- ½	2.6	9.0
14.00	Wrest	114	+ 1	1.8	
19.10	Young (W)	116	+ 5	4.2	13.4

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,305.50	East Midlands	636	+ 43	5.8	9.2
1,408.50	London Elect	809	+ 16	5.9	8.3
1,560.70	Midlands Elec	805	+ 17	5.7	10.3
3,314.40	Midland Grid	196	- 3½	6.1	8.8
5,818.60	Midland Pwr	490		4.2	10.1
5,816.30	Nat Power (P)	358	- 1½	4.2	10.2
686.90	Northern Elec	679	+ 33	8.3	8.5
584.60	Nthrn Ireland	417	- 2	4.3	9.2
4,095.00	PowerGen	562½	+ 13	3.8	10.3
4,113.30	PowerGen (P/P)	423	+ 15	3.8	12.2
1,275.90	Hydro-Elec	332	- 4	5.4	9.2
3,142.00	Scottish Power	396	- 2	5.0	10.7
1,310.40	Scotland	334	- 3	3.4	17.5
2,312.90	Southern Elec	893	- 18	4.6	10.5
1,424.20	Yorkshire Elec	898	+ 41	5.1	9.4

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
107.70	Acal	558	+ 1	1.7	20.3
187.20	Acorn Comp	308	- 2		
136.30	Admiral†	1090	+ 62	1.1	36.8
202.60	Amstrad	173½	- 8½	2.0	
29.00	Arlon	39		1.9	13.5
420.60	Aztec	140½	- 1½	1.3	
149.00	Aztec	554	+ 15	0.7	24.7
1,218.80	BICC	344	+ 2	4.7	
22.30	Bowles Hmstd	210		6.2	21.3
145.10	Brick	471	+ 14	3.5	13.8
831.40	Bowthorpe†	429	+ 1½	2.8	18.7
6.11	Burgis (AF) 'A'	22½		2.2	9.2
13.90	CML Microcir	129		6.3	15.6
28.30	Channel Hldgs	11		5.3	15.6
70.90	Chloride	29½	- 1	1.4	37.8
13.90	Clemitts	58		5.8	11.5
94.80	Cray Elect	40	- 1	4.7	
109.80	Crotchley	75	+ 3	1.8	25.7
1,608.90	Dixons Gp Sfs	735	+ 11	0.3	19.6
61.70	Delta†	448	+ 14	4.5	22.4
112.40	Domnia	421	+ 4	3.0	19.6
100.20	Dowding Mills†	67	- 1	5.3	15.8
211.30	Dtck	3300		0.5	39.4
20962.70	Electrolux 'B'	3316½	+ 106½	3.7	9.0
33.90	Emess†	31½	- 1½	0.8	19.9
11,600.90	Ericsson 'B'	1325	+ 65½	1.3	24.0
33.60	Eurocopy	89	- 1	4.2	12.2
539.10	Eurotherm†	969	- 4	1.6	23.9
840.60	Fenny Group	662	- 2	0.8	21.8
141.50	Filtronic Comm	79	+ 2½	0.3	55.1
91.80	Forward Gp	675	- 5	1.2	29.0
27.30	Fortnum† Inst	79	- 1	4.4	11.1
10,142.10	GEC	368	- 10½	3.9	17.2
77.50	Gresby	130	+ 12	4.9	
40.20	Gt Cordell	99	- 7	4.5	19.7
12.50	Hanick	31		3.2	22.3
9.68	Hoist	104	- 4	1.2	
9.65	LPA Ind	55	- 1	4.0	13.7
52.40	MTL Instruts	398		3.1	
141.50	Marner Sys	377	- 4	2.4	17.0
51.10	Microvitec	67	+ ½	1.8	
329.20	Nmbrd Ins	422	- 12		6.4
13.70	Nexus†	53	- 5		
229.20	Oxford Ins	463	- 8	1.6	18.4
9.39	Pacer Systems†	136	+ 8	3.3	
149.90	Pace	124	- 4	3.5	18.3
7,848.70	Philips Lmp nv	2318½	- 25	2.7	8.0
7.44	Plessey†	159		4.1	
64.90	Prestcit	175	+ 7	2.8	18.2
15.90	Prestwich	39	- 1		15.5
219.00	Pyrott	940	- 10	0.7	
942.70	Racal Elec	333	- 2	3.0	25.7
18.10	Radamec	38	- 1	3.1	
59.40	Rediffusion	149	+ 20	1.0	13.2
307.20	Renishaw†	507	+ 17	0.3	30.3
6.29	Rodime	4½			
152.60	Rotadata†	172	- 3	0.6	
35.50	Servomex†	361	- 1	2.7	20.3
42.50	Sifomonics†	42	+ ½	1.8	
3.13	Soundtracs	31	- 1	3.7	
4,696.50	Tns	35/1½	+ 181½	0.0	
2.96	TDS Circuitry	14			14.0
20.30	TGI	94		3.8	11.2
276.00	TTG	154	+ 9	1.9	16.6
15.50	Tadpole Tech	59	+ 5		
96.40	Telemetrix†	101	- 3	1.7	
215.60	Telnet†	680	+ 35	1.8	
20.40	Thorpe (FW)	238	+ 1½	2.2	14.2
2.83	Total Systems	28			3.1
125.00	Tunstall	380		1.4	17.5
487.20	Unitech	697	- 3	1.4	22.6
37.00	Vitech	17	- ½	1.4	14.9
144.60	Vtech	739		2.7	
111.30	Votca	401	- 4	6.0	14.2
5.02	Walbecourse	22			3.1
40.00	Wilmcote	137		4.1	33.4

ENGINEERING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
40.60	AMI	282		2.0	67.5
266.70	AFW	90	- 5	3.8	
67.50	ASW†	81	+ 9	6.2	
173.20	Aumuller†	452	- 2	3.2	19.1
94.10	Alvis	158	+ 11	1.5	16.0
64.40	Ash & Lacy†	174		4.9	
27.80	Atlas Equip	148	+ 25	3.6	
13.20	Avetters Metal†	133	+ 1½	5.3	
1,267.60	BBA†	329	+ 3	2.3	25.4
94.90	Bl Group	130		4.6	15.4
74.10	BMI	155	+ 2	5.5	13.8
220.10	Babcock	130	+ 4	5.4	9.2
3.85	Baker (CH)	7	- ½	4.3	
192.50	Baynes (Charles)†	125		2.5	18.7
14.80	Bculford	33	+ 1	1.5	
6.80	Beacon Group	7			
1.66	Bham	105		0.5	
295.00	Bodycote	506	+ 13	1.5	25.8
1.92	Booth Inds	40			
17.50	Brammer	32	+ ½	5.6	14.6
29.60	Brown	167	+ 5	5.3	
3,730.90	BTR	872	+ 4	1.8	21.6
3,675.70	Br Steel	186	- 8	4.7	5.4
4.84	Brooke Tool	19½	+ ½	2.0	11.6
24.60	Bryant†	284	- 1½	2.2	10.8
121.50	Bulmer†	100		1.6	21.0
40.50	Burdett†	118	+ 1	3.5	
180.50	Cardo Eng	294		4.4	15.0
76.60	Castings	179		7.5	14.5
10.20	Charlestn Hld	140		6.5	8.4
93.70	Chemring	397	- 2	3.4	16.4
17.50	Chair Blowers	202	- 5	3.4	29.5
439.30	Cobham	330	- 5	2.0	33.3
5.16	Cohen (A)	8½		1.2	6.0
66.50	Concentric	178		4.6	12.5
36.30	Cook (Wm)	234	+ 1	4.4	9.6
131.10	Dwnd Rmsn	150		4.4	13.1
200.30	EIS	380		4.7	13.8
7.33	Elcos	19		1.6	10.7
37.60	Elliott (B)	85½	+ 8½	3.9	9.1
60.10	Exponent†	96		3.9	19.2
198.80	FKI	177	- 4	3.4	16.7
137.70	Fenner	148	+ 1	3.0	14.5
1.43	Fermain	9½			
35.90	Firth Hldgs	51½	- 3½		30.9
81.70	Firth Rixson	58		2.2	24.1
48.10	GEI Int	100		3.4	12.9
7.80	Garton Eng	30		4.2	7.7
899.50	Glynwed	370	+ 9	4.4	14.2
57.50	Glaystone	15½		3.6	10.1
103.40	Haden Maclin	94		3.2	
15.00	Halbrgh	206		2.5	13.4
101.30	Hall Engr	239	- 1	4.2	16.4
543.20	Hamp	192	+ 1	1.5	24.3
41.40	Hampson Ind	49		5.6	11.3
4.90	Hds (Norman)	30			
8.05	Heatkraft	50	+ 1	0.8	45.5
41.10	Hill & Smith†	105	- 1	6.9	10.5
35.90	Hopkinsons	33	- 1	4.9	
14.70	Howden	35	- 2	4.1	17.5
214.30	Hunter†	73	- 1	4.9	9.4
211.10	Huntingt	215	- 3	3.6	
1,239.10	IMI†	357	+ 5	4.0	21.8
1,272.80	Johnson Matth	569	- 1	3.0	17.1
15.30	James Scrimgeor	50			12.9
17.90	Kelsey Ind	570		5.2	10.3
21.50	Lincolt	326	- 1	4.5	12.6
20.60	Linden (T)	25	+ ½	2.1	5.0
67.90	ML Hldgs	41	- 1

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: AG Holdings, Wardle Storeys.
Finals: Amey, Arcadian International, Arlen, Britannia Group, Dinkie Heel, Johnson Fry, Olives Property, Simons & Co.
Economic statistics: Producer prices (March).

TOMORROW

Interims: None scheduled.
Finals: Automotive Precision Holdings, Boosey & Hawkes, Cobham, Gradus Group, Hungarian Inv Co, S Jerome (Holdings), Peptide Therapeutics Group, Saltire, Tesco, Tie Rack.
Economic statistics: New construction orders (February), details of gilt auction.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Fidelity Special Values, Five Oaks Invs, Smiths Industries.
Finals: Havelock Europa, HTR Income & Growth, French Connection Group, Ryan Group, Signet Group.
Economic statistics: Unemployment (March), average earnings (February), unit labour costs (February), labour force survey (December-February), minutes of monthly monetary meeting (March 7) between Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England.

THURSDAY

Interims: SmithKline Beecham (Q1), WEW Group.
Finals: Laura Ashley, Barlows, Bloomsbury Publishing, Bodycote International, Henry Boot & Sons, Calm Energy, Cassell, Era Group, Foreign & Colonial Pacific IT, Fortune Oil, Henderson Highland Trust, Highcroft Inv Tst, House of Fraser, Klin Capital, Jackson Group, MICE Group, Morgan Grenfell Latin American, RMC Group, Stylo.
Economic statistics: Motor vehicle production (March), PSBR (March), retail prices (March), British Chambers of Commerce quarterly economic survey.

FRIDAY

Interims: Dumyat Inv Tst, Vision Group.
Finals: Automotive Products, Clarke, Nickolls & Coombe, HC Slingsby.

COMPANIES — PHILIP PANGALOS

Tesco results set tone for food sector

TESCO: Sir Ian MacLaurin, chairman of Britain's biggest supermarket group, will paint a clearer picture of conditions in the food retail sector and is expected to check in a healthy rise in full-year profits when Tesco reports tomorrow.

Tesco has enjoyed a rise in its share price recently on news that petrol price rises are sticking. But news is awaited on how much the recent petrol price war waged between supermarkets and oil companies has dented profits and what impact its Clubcard loyalty scheme is having in wooing customers from rival chains.

The petrol price cuts were slowed only recently when rising wholesale costs prompted a 2p a litre increase by most players. Analysts think that gross margins at petrol retailing, which accounts for about 12 per cent of Tesco's ex-VAT sales, may have been halved.

Mike Dennis, of NatWest Securities, expects Tesco to report pretax profits of £677 million, up from £595 million. Market forecasts range from £665 million to £700 million. An improved dividend of 9.75p (8.6p) is predicted. Analysts expect like-for-like sales to have grown by 9-10 per cent in 1995, but that may have slipped to nearer 4-5 per cent. However, they point out that food price inflation of about 4 per cent brings sales growth down.

HOUSE OF FRASER: The department stores group is one of a number of leading retailing names reporting this week and is likely to look to the future with greater confidence after its recent boardroom shake-up. Last week, it named John Coleman, 43, former managing director of Texas Homecare, to replace Andrew Jennings, who was sacked as managing director a month ago after unrest among shareholders. After a loss in the first half, Panmure Gordon expects full-year profits, due on Thursday, to nearly halve to £15 million, against £28 million previously. Market forecasts range from £15 million to £17 million.

RMC GROUP: The building materials supplier is expected to report dramatically higher earnings on Thursday and will also provide the market with a clearer picture of any upturn in its sector. UBS has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £335 million, against £283 million last time. Market forecasts range from £320 million to £335 million. A dividend of 25p (23p) is predicted.

UBS expects weaker German trading in the second half to have an impact on full-year results and reduced expectation for the current year, but the downside is seen as limited and the current rating undemanding.

Sir Ian MacLaurin, who is expected to announce a healthy rise in Tesco's full-year profits

SIGNET GROUP: Wednesday's annual results from the UK's biggest jeweller will be largely irrelevant in comparison with possible news on the sale of several of its UK businesses. Last week, it moved to quash speculation that it was on the brink of announcing the sale of two of its chains. The company announced in January that it was inviting offers for Ernest Jones and H Samuel, its UK jewellery businesses. The price tag is thought to be £300 million. In a statement, the group said the sale was proceeding and a further announcement would not be made in the immediate future.

Final pre-tax profits after exceptionals are forecast at between £20 million and £25 million, against £8.1 million. No dividend is anticipated.

LAURA ASHLEY: Results on Thursday should reveal the resumption of dividend payouts after the group withdrew payments for the year to the end of January, 1994. For years, the fabrics and home furnishings group maintained the total annual payout at 0.1p, but UBS expects an improvement to 0.5p. UBS has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £7 million, reversing the £30.6 million slump into the red last time. Market forecasts range from £7 million to £10 million.

TIE RACK: Joan D'Olier, of NatWest Securities, expects Tie Rack to report full-year pre-tax profits of about £8.1 million (£7.4 million) tomorow, talhough much will depend on how the group fared during the important Christmas trading period. A dividend of 3.25p (2.25p) is predicted. Tie Rack's expansion plans continue and NatWest believes initial results from its first shop in Japan should look promising. But there is concern about margin erosion, owing to the costs of establishing new operations and higher raw material costs.

SMITHS INDUSTRIES: Stronger trading in its core operations should help the aerospace electronics to medical systems group to a healthy rise in first-half profits on Wednesday. UBS is looking for interim pretax profits to rise to £64 million, against £58 million. Market forecasts range from £64 million to £66 million. An improved dividend of 5.55p (5.05p) is predicted. Analysts will also be interested in how the recent strike action at Boeing, one of the group's largest customers, and the slowdown in civil aircraft production is affecting deliveries.

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM: The Anglo-American drugs group is expected to show weak growth in its first quarter when it reports on Thursday. Antibiotic sales are expected to be hit by a mild influenza season in January and February, compared with high levels of the illness last year. The firm's hepatitis B vaccine will also see less growth as a French vaccination programme that boosted sales in the first quarter of 1995 quarter has ended. Analysts forecast pre-exceptional pretax profits of between £375 million to £380 million, against £360 million last time. A dividend of 3.5p (3.2p) is anticipated. Attention will focus on current trading and prospects.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Prices point the way

A FULL menu of British economic statistics this week starts today with March producer prices. Input prices are expected to rise 0.3 per cent, according to a consensus of market forecasts compiled by MMS International, pushing down the annual rate of input price inflation to 2.7 per cent from 3 per cent in February.

Output prices are expected to have risen by only 0.2 per cent, taking annual inflation down to 3.5 per cent from 3.7 per cent the previous month. Excluding food, drink and tobacco the rate is expected to fall to 3.2 per cent from 3.4 per cent.

Tomorrow sees February's new construction orders and Wednesday unemployment statistics for March, average earnings for February and the latest pay report from IRS for March. Unemployment is expected to have fallen by about 7,500, according to MMS, while average earnings annual growth should remain at 3.25 per cent.

On Thursday, retail price figures are released for March. Headline inflation is expected to have risen 0.3 per cent, pushing its annual rate down to 2.6 per cent from 2.7 per cent in February. The underlying inflation rate is predicted to fall to 2.8 per cent from 2.9 per cent. The RPIY measure, which excludes mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes, should remain unchanged at 2.5 per cent. Also on Thursday is the crucial figure for the public sector borrowing requirement for the last month of the tax year. The MMS consensus is for a requirement in March, traditionally a month of heavy departmental spending, of £10 billion, which would give a full-year PSBR of nearly £33 billion — well above the £29 billion forecast in the November Budget.

Overseas, attention will be on Thursday's Bundesbank council meeting amid continuing speculation about German interest rate cuts and tomorrow's March US industrial production report.

JANET BUSH

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: **Buy** Tesco, Alexon, Parkland, Cordiant, William Sinclair, Robert. *Independent on Sunday*: **Buy** Hammerson, MY Holdings, AAF Industries **Avoid** Hunting **Sell** Prudential. *Sunday Telegraph*: **Buy** B Ellion, Alexon, Doetlex, MICE Group. *The Observer*: **Sell** British Airways. *Mail on Sunday*: **Buy** Peptide Therapeutics, Kwik-Fit.

GILT-EDGED

History shows fixed-interest market falls hostage to political uncertainty

Following its defeat in the Staffordshire South-East by-election, the Conservative majority in Parliament has been reduced to just one. Its position is so fragile that one more death or defection will seriously impair its ability to remain in government. John Major may choose to soldier on in a minority administration or, more probably, reach some sort of understanding with the Ulster Unionists. But whichever option is preferred, there can be little doubt that the prospect of this Parliament running its full term is receding. In view of this, investors clearly need to assess the likely impact the general election will have on the fixed-interest market.

A key point in this respect is that opinion polls are continuing to indicate a Labour victory. Although the Conservatives have gained some ground in recent months, their handling of the BSE crisis suggests that this improvement is unlikely to be sustained. Typically, when Labour has been expected to win an election the gilt market has performed poorly, both in nominal and relative terms. Labour was ahead of the Conservatives in the run-up to the elections of 1966, 1970, October 1974 and 1992. On each occasion, gilt yields rose in the three months to polling day — the average rise was 47 basis points.

The contrast is provided by the performance of the gilt market in the approach to the elections in 1979, 1983 and 1987 when the Conservatives have been ahead in the opinion polls. In the run-up to each one of these elections yields fell — the average decline was around 100 basis points in the three months to the poll and some 15 basis points in the final month. It may be argued, with some justification, that this time the gilt market has already discounted a change in government; after all, Labour has enjoyed a healthy lead in the opinion polls for more than three years. That said, in the run-up to five of the seven elections considered above, the party ahead in the opinion polls went on to win the subsequent election. It is not inconceivable that similar assumptions may have been made in the past. While the gilt market undoubtedly adjusts its expectations some way ahead of the election, as the poll looms investors are likely to focus more specifically on the implications of a change in government. That is particularly true in the case of overseas investors.

Looking back to the last election in 1992, it is interesting that gilts were particularly bad performers in the six weeks prior to the poll. Measured against German bunds, the yield differential widened by 60 basis points over this period to reach 200 basis points. The current spread between the two markets is just under 180 basis points, which represents an increase of around 40 basis points since the tail end of last year. Direct comparisons between the two periods may be a little inappropriate, however. Firstly, the approach of EMU has increased the risk premium attached to DM-denominated assets. Second, in 1992 sterling was a member of the exchange-rate mechanism, which should have ensured a relatively stable outlook.

> ❛ A change of government will lead the gilt market to demand a greater risk premium than exists now ❜

Labour has, meanwhile, made significant changes since Neil Kinnock's second attempt to win a general election. Gordon Brown has been at pains to emphasise the rules and targets that will be at the heart of its conduct of monetary and fiscal policies. On inflation, some form of target is certain to be maintained although it could be a broader measure such as nominal GDP. It is also difficult to see Labour reducing the influence of the Bank of England. Indeed, greater powers may eventually be granted in conjunction with its plans to make the Bank a more representative and accountable body.

On public borrowing, the Shadow Chancellor has enthusiastically championed the "golden rule" — that is, borrowing will be allowed only to finance investment spending. In theory, this is a little less restrictive than the present government's objective to balance the Budget over the course of the economic cycle. In practice, there is likely to be little difference.

While we do not believe there is a lot to choose between what is on offer from the Conservatives and Labour on macroeconomic policy, the uncertainty that will result from a change of government will still lead the gilt market to demand a greater risk premium than currently exists. The spread over German bunds could widen by a further 20 to 30 basis points to reflect this.

Such a move would still only imply a very modest real yield differential between the two markets. If the Tories were to pull off an unexpected victory the gilt market should bounce strongly. On the other hand, if the opinion polls prove accurate the market is likely, at best, to trade sideways in the immediate aftermath.

SIMON RUBINSOHN AND MIKE LENHOFF
Capel-Cure Myers Capital Management

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Spot of rot mars bid by Rentokil

RED faces all round at Rentokil, whose advisers Lazards, have scored a hat trick of blunders in the hostile bid for BET. Not content with sending a "highly confidential" letter meant for the Rentokil company secretary to BET's offices in Stratton Street, or with forgetting to scrub the codename "Rugby" from the Stock Exchange announcement of BET's defence document on the same day as the real Rugby Group announced a 40 per cent profits fall, they have gone one further. Attached to a submission they put on display at Denton Hall, Rentokil's solicitor, was a credit facility agreement detailing agency fees of £25,000 per annum per facility payable to NatWest. Handwritten in bold across the top ... NOT TO BE ATTACHED.

Banking boast

THE recruitment criterion is ruthless at Barclays where the head of personal banking boasts of sacking someone at the tender age of 21. When Tim Parkes took a sabbatical, working at a college in Cheltenham for a year, he sharpened up the union bar, starting with the sacking of an unscrupulous member of staff. Parkes was also responsible for the college ban on Barclays cheques.

Knight: fast travel

TREASURY Minister Angela Knight scoots off from London this morning to deliver a speech on board the royal yacht in Toronto, promoting the UK financial services industry, before making a return flight 24 hours later.

Money talks

REPORTERS at the EU's conference on aid for Bosnia found themselves treated to a rare example of glasnost on Saturday when most speeches and pledges from the 55 donor nations were piped through to the press room. But just as the world's press was totting up the pledges to see if the $1.2 billion target had been achieved the sound was cut. Censorship? No, "They forgot to turn the sound off after the opening speeches," said an EU official.

THE turncoat at Eastern Natural Gas who signed the deal with the Rugby Football Union to supply 42,500 therms of gas to England supporters' HQ, was a Welshman and a Cardiff Arms Park ticket-holder. Arnie Jones, area sales manager, cut the deal on his first visit to Twickenham.

Early bids

BONHAMS opens its doors at 7.30am for the first time tomorrow to attract buyers before they go to work in the City. The Knightsbridge and Chelsea salesrooms will be serving free coffee and croissants to customers who arrive early enough to park without risking the wrath of traffic wardens. Behind the ruse is managing director Christopher Elwes, who rises daily at 6.45am.

MORAG PRESTON

We do Dubai
26 times a week.

There'll be another one along in a minute!

Emirates
THE FINEST IN THE SKY

GOOD NEWS: THE AIRLINE VOTED 'BEST CARRIER TO THE MIDDLE EAST 95' NOW SERVES DUBAI 21 TIMES A WEEK FROM LONDON AND 5 TIMES FROM MANCHESTER. CALL 0171 808 0808 (LON) OR 0161 437 9007 (MAN), OR CALL YOUR TRAVEL AGENT.

Firms at highest risk now, says CCN

THE risk of company insolvencies is higher now than at the end of the last recession due to the higher proportion of smaller, owner-managed businesses, according to CCN, the credit reference agency.

In a study of 500,000 British firms it found 24 per cent in danger of failing at the end of 1993. That percentage had risen to 29.1 per cent at the end of last year and another 23.6 per cent were "high risk".

Venture bill

Worldwide investment by British venture capital firms totalled £2.5 billion during 1995, up 22 per cent on the previous year, according to the British Venture Capital Association. Some £2.1 billion, or 84 per cent of the total, was invested within the United Kingdom.

Pay bind

British firms still spend too high a proportion of their earnings on pay and this is holding back investment, a new study by Professor Douglas McWilliams, chief executive of the Centre for Economics and Business Research, shows.

Imro plan

Imro, the regulator for fund managers, will today publish a series of proposals that are believed to include initiatives to give private investors greater protection.

Age block

A survey by the Institute of Management of 1,600 managers found that two-thirds supported legislation, including laws, to restrict the use of age in job advertisements.

Motor insurance rates set to rise by 10% this year

By Marianne Curphey

MOTOR insurance rates are set to rise by 10 per cent over the next 12 months because underwriters can no longer sustain the current low levels, a leading motoring organisation has claimed.

The RAC, which uses a panel of 20 household insurers, says some companies are writing unprofitable business in their attempt to gain and retain market share.

Motor insurance has become increasingly competitive over the last seven years, with more than 50 telephone-based companies setting up direct-selling operations.

The RAC believes insurers would like to see price increases of 15 per cent this year, but are fearful of losing business to rivals by raising premiums too high.

"Our feedback tells us insurers are really hurting," said Nigel Richardson, motor schemes manager with the RAC. "There are some signs of slight premium increases but competition has never been as keen as it is now.

"All insurers want to increase their market share, but some are not under pressure to produce immediate profits and can therefore afford to keep rates low for a couple of months longer than their rivals and attract new business."

The RAC has about 300,000 motor insurance policyholders while the Automobile Association, the UK's largest motoring organisation, insures about 900,000 motorists.

A further 2.2 million people are policyholders with Direct Line, the largest motor insurer in the country.

Analysts have downgraded their profit expectations for Direct Line amid signs that its growth has slowed and that it was badly hit by the winter weather, especially in Scotland.

Some in the City predict that when the Royal Bank of Scotland, Direct Line's parent company, reports its interim results next month, the motor insurer's profits will only be half of last year's level. Accordingly, they have downgraded full year pre-profits.

Direct Line made £112 million last year and had been expected to make £89 million in the year to September. Some analysts are now predicting profits as low as £40 million.

Some of the composites have indicated that they will not chase market share by reducing premiums.

General Accident, which with 5 per cent of the market ranks as one of Britain's six biggest insurers, has already introduced selected rate rises of 4 per cent.

Mr Richardson believes that the industry is likely to see some consolidation.

He said: "The market is at saturation point — the population is ageing and the birth rate is falling, which means that the number of people wanting car insurance for the first time will soon start to fall. Insurers are having to fight harder to keep their business because more people are chasing it, and the market is driven by price."

Kvaerner Finnish stake raises £55m

By Paul Durman

KVAERNER, the Norwegian company that is paying £900 million for the Trafalgar House construction and engineering group, is raising £55 million through the sale of a Finnish investment.

Kvaerner is selling a 26 per cent stake in Tampella Corp of Finland to Sandvik of Sweden. The Norwegian group will make a profit of £17 million on its Tampella shares, which it only acquired a few months ago as part of its purchase of Tampella Power.

After buying Trafalgar House, Kvaerner said it wants to concentrate on its international engineering business. Additionally, Tampella is about to merge with Svedala of Sweden. "In the present circumstances, liberating capital is a more appropriate approach for us than becoming a shareholder in a merged company," said Erik Tonseth, Kvaerner's chief executive.

Kvaerner still owns a large stake, acquired for £50 million, in Amec, the British construction company it tried to take over last December. Mr Tonseth said he would be happy to sell Kvaerner's Amec shares as they are no longer of strategic interest.

The acquisition of Trafalgar House, still awaiting regulatory approval, will leave Kvaerner heavily borrowed. It is planning to sell the Cunard shipping line and other unwanted businesses in a £1 billion disposal programme.

Paul Saul, Mulberry's founder, and the stylish wear that typifies his company's output

Mulberry to seek AIM listing

By Paul Durman

MULBERRY, the company whose upmarket leather bags are sold in Harrods and Liberty, will float on the Alternative Investment Market next month in a sale expected to value the business at more than £30 million.

A share placing to raise £8 million to £9 million will allow Mulberry to pay off City backers who hold expensive loan notes issued at the peak of the interest rate cycle four years ago.

Roger Saul, who founded Mulberry 25 years ago, said: "The balance sheet will be greatly enhanced. It will leave us in a position to move forward very, very strongly."

Mr Saul and his family will own about 75 per cent of the group after the flotation. Between 1990 and 1995, Mulberry doubled sales to £25.3 million and almost quadrupled profits to £2 million. Mr Saul said results for the year to March 30 will show continued progress.

About 70 per cent of the company's sales are overseas and it has twice won the Queen's Award for Export. Although best-known for its English Country Look range of handbags and luggage, the company has also expanded into clothing and fabrics.

☐ La Senza, a Canadian-backed lingerie chain, also plans to float on AIM, hoping to raise more than £15 million. Most of La Senza's 22 shops were opened in the last year.

Action will decide if Lloyd's can seize awards

By Sarah Bagnall

A CRUCIAL High Court action begins tomorrow that will decide whether Lloyd's of London has the right to seize any court awards made to litigating names. Thousands of litigating names have already won hundreds of millions of pounds of damages from High Court actions and more are in the pipeline.

The damages awards are being held in escrow accounts, while the insurance market is trying to end the mass of actions by offering its 34,000 names an out-of-court settlement. This currently stands at £2.8 billion but is expected to be lifted above £3 billion.

Before launching its offer to names last year, Lloyd's had sought approval from the Department of Trade and Industry for planned changes to names' premium trust deeds (PTDs). These changes would give Lloyd's the first call on any court awards or settlements to names where those names have outstanding debts to the market. In March 1995, Michael Heseltine, then President of the Board of Trade, approved the changes, subject to a legal ruling.

The planned amendments were met with anger by names as many of them have financial obligations outside the market, such as loans taken out in order to pay their Lloyd's losses.

Names want to be able to choose which debts they discharge first and say the changes to the PTDs are unlawful as they make Lloyd's a preferential creditor.

There is a chance, however, that last-minute talks between Lloyd's and representatives of litigating names may lead to a temporary adjournment of the hearing. This is in spite of the fact that the hearing's outcome has significant implications for thousands of names as well as for the insurance market's future survival.

Active recovery likely after Easter hangover

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

IT WAS a relatively quiet week for the Alternative Investment Market, with the market for smaller and growing companies suffering from a bit of a hangover after the Easter break and the end of the tax year.

Julian Palfreyman, a director at Winterflood Securities, a market-maker in all AIM stocks, said: "It's been very subdued. A lot of people have been away for Easter and the end of the tax year hasn't helped." However, things are set to pick up again this week. Mr Palfreyman expects Cardcast, the credit card fraud company that is due to start trading tomorrow, to get off to a good start and open at a premium. The shares have been placed at 85p, but dealers expect them to open at between 100p and 110p. Active Imaging, the electronic imaging company which is expected to join the AIM next week, is also attracting considerable interest ahead of a placing by Beeson Gregory. The company, which has developed a range of intelligent digital cameras used in surveillance to road traffic management, is seeking to raise about £5 million of new money, capitalising it at about £20 million. The float proceeds will be used to eliminate borrowings and invest in business and market development of the group's intelligent digital camera technology.

A combined stake of 56 per cent held by Active Imaging's management and a 24 per cent shareholding held by venture capitalists, including 3i, will be diluted.

Another company looking to join AIM is Reflec, the reflective inks specialist. It plans to join early next month. The group, located in Manchester, is seeking £750,000 by way of an offer for subscription, valuing it at £2.75 million.

Reflec, which was formed in 1993, will use the funds raised from flotation to commercialise and market its novel, one-pack reflective printing inks. The group suffered a pre-tax loss of £158,403 in the year to February 29, due to write-offs of development spending. However, it projects that it will make an operating profit in the year 1997/98.

Meanwhile, Firecrest hit a bumpy patch last week after the marketing and Internet specialist saw Roy Capper, its chief executive, censured by the Stock Exchange for failing to declare an option over 400,000 shares. Firecrest also launched the second phase of its bid to raise £1.5 million of desperately needed extra working capital. It is making an open offer of up to 2.20 million new shares, at 50p each, to raise about £750,000.

Pan Andean Resources, the exploration company whose shares have risen sharply, has seen volatile trade ahead of an anticipated seismic report for an oilfield in Bolivia. The report should be out soon.

Tracker Network, the maker of a device that tracks stolen cars, reported on Friday that it had halved pre-tax losses to £1.6 million in 1995. The company, whose shares have suffered from some illiquidity in the past, said that sales are going well and hopes to make a profit next year.

The number of companies traded on AIM stands at 139, compared with just ten listed when the market started on June 19. Capitalisation amounts to £2.72 billion, while £242.4 million has been raised since the market began.

Philip Pangalos

HK residents thrill to new stadium's sound of silence

From Tom Walker in Hong Kong

THE Hong Kong Stadium, which is managed by Wembley International and was once touted as the prime venue for the world's leading rock acts when touring Asia, looks set to be remembered only as a white elephant.

No band has set foot in the HK$1 billion (£85.5 million) arena since it was opened two years ago, after a long dispute with local residents over noise levels.

With all sides showing no sign of compromise, 1997 and Chinese rule could condemn the stadium to silence in perpetuity.

"The people of Hong Kong are beginning to accept there will be no concerts there: it is the inevitable outcome," said a Hong Kong urban council source on Saturday.

Last year, Wembley racked up a surprise surplus of HK$5 million, largely through unexpected savings on repairs, maintenance and publicity. But experts foresee the picture changing dramatically next year, when large-scale maintenance will be needed for the first time.

Many bizarre tactics have been suggested to get around the noise problem, including the audience donning gloves, to diminish the noise from clapping and to absorb sound waves. Another idea was to issue all concert-goers with personal headphones. An initiative to use the stadium as a bungee-jumping centre for the colony was also quashed.

"We have a long line of companies wanting to be the first to put a concert on," said Julia Lau, Wembley's public relations manager. "It's just at the moment nobody can do anything about it."

England's football team will play its last warm-up match before the European championships in the stadium on May 26, one of Wembley's few chances to make money from the stadium this year. Rock concerts are the only sure means for the stadium to be a viable proposition for the company.

The stadium, whose sweeping steel-cantilever architecture has won plaudits the world over, was funded by the Royal Jockey Club, which makes its money from the nearby Happy Valley racecourse, as a gift to the people of Hong Kong, and the feverish predilection of the Chinese for betting.

The children are smaller, not the issues

The Times Educational Supplement has now enlarged its focus on Primary and Pre-School Education. Every week: informative, practical articles for the professional. This is in addition to the detailed, expert analysis of our regular pull-out Primary Update. Either way, if it involves children from 0-11, it'll be in The TES, at your newsagent's every Friday.

TES
The Times Educational Supplement
Why not buy it?

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

1995-1996 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
134	109	17.40	AMCO Corp	122		4.6	13.4
[illegible]	18	2.09	Abacus Recruit	[illegible]	..	.	.
130	123	18.40	A de Grachy	125		5.6	10.4
18	7¼	16.70	African Gold	16¼	+ 1	.	.
13½	13	5.01	Albemarle & Bd	13½		.	.
24	17	9.44	Alpha Omega	18	...	.	.
415	380	37.30	Ann St Brewery	390		5.6	11.7
885	885	5.30	Ann St Cv Pf	885		8.9	.
121	[illegible]	67.50	Antonov	95	+ 7	.	..
9	8	2.13	Arlon Props	9	..	..	.
75	68	10.93	Ask Central	68	..		
61	58	1.08	Athelney Trust	60	− 1	..	..
6½	5½	5.76	Ballymalloy	5½			
20	17	4.88	Banc Hldgs	19	− 1		.
46	43	3.85	Belcanto	43			
150	140	1.07	Bowness Lees	147	+ 2	3.0	
70	70		Bown Lees Cv Pf	70	..		
60	50	10.00	Brancote Hldgs	58			...
345	240	40.10	Brookbank	340	− 5	2.7	..
120	116	0.96	CCI Hldgs	120	+ 2	.	..
110	110	0.13	CCI Founder Shs	110			
148	95	4.20	Cafe Inns	147	+ 2	1.7	12.1
75	55	7.39	Caledonian Tst	65			7.9
2	?	1.84	Capital & Wyle	2			
83	58	16.90	Card Clear	75	+ 2		
72	60	3.39	Cassidy Bros	62	..	6.0	8.8
43	41	1.79	Cavendish W F	41			20.8
18	16	4.70	Celebrated Group	16	− 1		
£110	£550	27.30	Celtic	£105	−500		
£105	£450		Celtic Pf Shs	£800	−1700		
124	109	16.40	CI Comms(TV)	122		2.5	15.7
86	62	7.79	Charlwell Intl	73			
110	110	0.93	Clan Homes	110			
31	28	12.70	ClubPartners	30	− 1		
510	510	12.20	Com de Pri Fin	510			...
44	37	8.76	Consler Tsl	40		5.0	10.0
85	81	15.70	Country Gdns	85	..	2.1	
73	70	2.68	Cntry Gdns Pf	73		9.1	
109	92	35.60	Creos Intl	99			
62	53	20.80	Crown Products	55	− 1		
210	152	13.30	DBS Management	187	− 3	3.8	8.0
36	34		Dulwich Inns	35	+ 1		
66	63	3.58	David Glass	66	...	5.5	9.4
1275	860	58.30	Dawson Hldgs	1275		2.9	34.2
14	11	3.79	Dean Corp	13		2.0	
325	305	31.80	Dicom	310	+ 3	.	71.6
78	60	12.20	Dmatek	65	+ 4		...
137	100	15.00	Easynet	105	− 3	..	...
200	115	64.10	Electrophoretics	130	− 7		
125	120	5.40	Euro Sales Fn	120		...	
345	325		Evolve	345	...	...	..
350	75	5.77	Fml Potts	245		..	
188	55	10.30	Firecrest	62	− 16		...
183	180	36.70	First Int	181			
220	188	5.33	Flomerics	208	...	1.6	...
333	253	7.74	Floral St	333	..	0.4	15.1
193	136	17.90	Formscan	170	+ 2	1.5	22.1
22	14	80.70	Freepages	22	+ 3	...	...
106	93	5.30	Furlong Homes	106	+ 2¼	2.9	
9¾	8½	24.50	Gander Hldgs	8½	− ¼		
22	15	5.10	Greenhills	17	− 1		
147	145	32.40	Gudyn	145	+ 2½	3.4	
41	23	2.34	Hanson	23			
133	120	59.00	Hecos Ded Ies	130	+ 3	0.3	
80	80	0.93	Hurlingham	80			
112	105	10.50	Indpt Radio	105	− 2		
88	65	14.70	Inner Worldings	88	+ 3		
523	503	21.50	Intl Greetings	513	..	1.2	
143	108	30.10	IOC Intl	133	− 2	...	...
103	83	3.79	Jasmin	93	− 2	...	14.0
305	280	32.50	Jennings Bros	305		2.6	21.9
125	103	39.00	KS Biomedix	103			
165	137	29.80	Lancashire En	165	+ 5	3.0	11.3
245	210	14.90	Lawrence	245	+ 2	0.8	
2750	2550	49.80	Lawrie Group	2550		3.5	13.0
285	256	43.60	Le Riches Strs	263	− 3	7.3	25.8
95	85		Lifehome Ac Ten	85			
3¼	2	31.50	Lon Fiduciary	3¼			
200	200	13.10	Lonrho Crp	230	+ 15	2.1	

1995-1996 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
70	55	1.38	London Town	55			
25	16	10.00	Marx & O'seas	17	+ 1	2.4	23.0
130	113	14.50	Marine & Marc S	120	− 5		..
117	92	41.80	Megalomedia	97	− 2		...
99	79		Megalomedia Wts	87	− 4		..
111	86	6.65	Mellek	105	+ ¼	1.0	
475	125	85.80	Memory Corp	145	..		..
22	21	5.04	Metropolitan Films	21	− 1		
233	156	16.90	Monmouth	223	+ 18	2.6	.
0¼	0¼	9.06	Mountcashel	0¼			..
80	67	24.20	MultiMedia	84	− 5		...
340	285	21.50	NWF Grp	287	− 8	2.8	13.9
210	175		Nash (Wm)	200		4.1	..
345	335	6.73	Neil Clark	345		2.2	16.7
208	200	5.49	Neilson Cobbold	200	..	2.4	10.0
73	65		Norcity B	73			.
73	63		Nvohomes	70	− 3	..	..
76	65	7.45	Nthn Petlm	65	− 1	.	.
8	8	0.13	Nthn Petlm Wts	8		.	.
70	55		Nthnb Res Prps	55	− 8		
116	111	17.80	Norwdy Home	115	.	1.3	33.1
110	90	13.50	Old English Pub	110		1.1	
102	84	6.29	Omnicare	102	+ 10½	0.6	.
68	51	14.30	Omnimedia	58	+ 5		..
93	66	21.60	Optical Care	93			
1¾	1	16.00	Pacific Media	1½	− ¼	..	...
55	43		Pacific Med Pf	54			
93	17¾	30.90	Pan Andean Res	75	+ 8		.
195	180	4.31	Park Estc(Liv)	180		.	..
445	365	93.40	Pal City	385	− 5		..
108	125	29.40	Polymasc Phoenix	147	− 2		..
450	400	5.54	Preston Nth E	430	..		
105	103	16.50	Primary Hlth Pr	103			
35	32	3.15	Raphael Zm	35	+ 1	4.5	22.0
105	95	1.02	Rawlinson Pkt	95		.	..
17	16	10.60	Ricemen Intnl	16			...
4½	3½	3.60	Rushmere Wynne	4		..	
1¾	0¾	0.16	Rush Wyn Wts	1¾	+ ¼	...	
126	48	4.94	SCS SafeWe	48			
31	20	2.16	Scotscreen Inds	31		4.0	29.3
43	28		Scott Pride	33		.	.
320	270	14.90	Scrutons	310		5.4	..
60	30	1.75	Self Sealing	30	− 5	.	.
8	2½		Selkirk	3	..	.	..
18¾	7	59.90	SkyePharma	9	...	..	...
9	6	0.97	SkyePharma B Wts	8			
595	524	137.20	Southern News	582	− 13	3.4	15.3
68	50		Southern Vectis	68		.	.
615	255	87.00	Standard Radio	528	+ 13	..	..
203	122	20.20	Surrey Fr Inns	200	+ 22	1.2	23.5
136	116	16.10	Syst Integ Rsch	120	− 2		..
915	585	35.20	TRACKER Network	665	+ 80	..	..
55	38	4.14	Tele Cred Eur	41		..	
43	28		Tele Cred Wts	30	+ 2		.
116	101	17.20	Tepal	105		..	
180	175		Thrifty Care	180	...	1.0	...
170	165		Thrifty Care Pf	170		.	
56	46	219.60	Tiscalinet	52			.
40	40		Unirest	40		...	
458	398	7.09	Utd Auctions	398	− 5	1.3	
805	568¼	15.00	VDC	745	− 35	3.2	13.5
14	13½	37.00	Versailles Grp	14	+ ½		22.0
325	130	8.25	Viewpoint	275		.	..
428	232		Voss	372	+ 10	..	
13	7		Weddesbum Secs	8		..	...
5	3		Wedd Secs Wnts	3		.	
19	13	5.25	Western Selcom	16			59.7
6	5	0.31	Western Sel Wrt	5			
31	26	2.66	Westwood Engy	26		.	.
75	50	5.87	Winterplgr M Mkt	53		.	.
145	130		Wynnstay Props	130	..	.	.
300	170	36.30	Zergo	285			

ENGELS-HOLLANDSE BELEGGINGS TRUST N.V.
(English and Dutch Investment Trust)
Established in Amsterdam

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders will be held on Friday 26 April 1996 at 10.00 hours at the Le Meridien Apollo Hotel, Apollolaan 2, Amsterdam.

Shareholders wishing to attend the General Meeting of the Company must deposit their shares not less than seven days before the Meeting with Staal Bankiers N.V., Lange Houtstraat 8, 2501 CH Den Haag or with Hill Samuel Bank Limited, 48 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y4GR. A deposit certificate will be issued to such shareholders which, upon surrender, will entitle them to vote at the Meeting.

Holders of shares registered with the Company in its Shareholders' Register must inform the Board of Managing Directors in writing at least four days prior to the Meeting that they intend to attend the Meeting in person or by proxy.

Holders of Participation Certificates issued by Royal Exchange Assurance who wish to attend and vote at the Meeting must contact the Trustee Department of Royal Exchange Assurance, 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3TG at least ten days before the Meeting.

Royal Exchange Assurance is prepared to issue a power of attorney for the same number of shares held in trust as the Certificateholders shall have deposited with Royal Exchange Assurance.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1995 and of the Resolutions to be put before the Meeting will be available at the offices of the above named.

Board of Management
Engels-Hollandse Beleggings Trust N.V.
Rotterdam, 11 April 1996

Offices address:
Max Euwelaan 61
3062 MA Rotterdam

Tobacco groups ride out legal threat by expanding

Richard Thomson finds the makers of cigarettes in surprisingly good health

Beset by lawsuits, besieged by anti-smoking campaigners, attacked by legislators, the US tobacco industry has never had so many problems to contend with. But anyone who was tempted to think that it was sinking under the burden may be surprised to learn that its core business has never been better.

When the leading US tobacco companies report their first-quarter earnings this week, it will become clear just how healthy they really are. Sales have risen strongly, profit margins are sound and prospects look bright.

Philip Morris, for example, the world's biggest cigarette manufacturer, will on Tuesday announce first-quarter net profits of about $1.56 billion, up from $1.36 billion at the same stage last year. A week later, RJR Nabisco, the second-largest cigarette maker, will report profits of about $182 million, compared with $168 million a year ago. No sign of smoking-related diseases about these figures.

Also coming over the next few days will be results from American Brands, Brooke Group, UST Inc and, in the first week of May, Lowes Corp. All of them will show handsome profit growth. The first-quarter results, moreover, are likely to set the tone for the rest of 1996.

"They'll all do very well this time around. They'll all raise their dividends, and the shares of all of them should rise in the foreseeable future," said John Maxwell, tobacco analyst at Wheat First Butcher Singer, the brokers. There is good reason for all this optimism.

In spite of the adverse publicity of lawsuits and whistleblowers, sales of cigarettes in the US keep improving. Mindful that this state of affairs may not last forever, they have been expanding overseas at a rapid rate. Some 50 per cent of Philip Morris's revenue is from abroad and these businesses are growing at nearly 20 per cent a year. Only about a third of RJR's revenue is from overseas, but that too is growing fast. Most sales by Brown & Williamson, the third-largest US tobacco company, which is owned by BAT Industries, are in the Far East and Latin America.

Philip Morris, which owns the Marlboro brand, is one of several tobacco groups in an industry that faces 155 lawsuits

"Consumers love American-style cigarettes," said David Adelman, tobacco analyst at Dean Witter. This is important because the US accounts for a mere 12 per cent of the total world consumption of five thousand billion cigarettes a year. US groups are grabbing a bigger share of the world market, mainly in Eastern Europe, the Far East and South America — a move which should generate vast profits for them in the future. And they have hardly even tapped the biggest single market of all, China, which smokes a thousand billion cigarettes a year.

But, while trading is going well, there is a public relations disaster developing in the US. However much tobacco executives try to make light of the 155 lawsuits pending against the industry, they undoubtedly face a big problem. "Until recently, the lawsuits were just from activists trying to get publicity," said Mr Adelman. "Now, for the first time, the companies are being sued by people and institutions that really want to make money out of them."

New Jersey last week joined 14 other US states suing the industry for billions of dollars, which they claim are the costs of providing medical care to people made sick by smoking. The so-called Castano class action on behalf of everyone in the US injured by smoking is still pending. And a growing band of whistleblowers — mostly former industry executives and researchers — are coming forward accusing the industry of lying over how much it knew about the addictiveness of nicotine.

"Historically, juries do not award damages to smokers, so the industry should win all these cases," said Mr Adelman. But the tobacco industry is now engaged in a deadly serious public relations war that it seems to be losing. The recent decision by Liggett, owned by Brooke Group, to settle lawsuits against it out of court has blown apart the industry's traditional solidarity in fighting all-comers. It also created a precedent: tobacco companies can after all be made to pay out money. This opened the floodgates to the tide of new lawsuits.

Given the slow pace of the US courts, the outcome will not be clear for some time. The immediate effect of the Liggett action, however, was to hammer the value of tobacco shares. Philip Morris is down 16 per cent from $104 to $88, RJR down from $35 to $30, BAT's US-traded ADRs down from $18 to $15. Investors are frightened. Some of the huge public employee investment funds, such as those in California, say tobacco shares are no longer a safe investment. On a historical basis, they are now cheap.

But will they ever rise again? If they follow past patterns, the answer is yes. They normally fall sharply on bad news but outperform over the longer term. Thanks to hefty profits, there will be handsome dividend increases announced during the summer, which should help to restore faith in the shares. If they do not, it will be an ominous sign to the industry that its world has undergone a fundamental change: that however good its trading performance, investors would prefer not to touch it with a bargepole.

Assault ships delayed as MoD haggles over price

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

AN ORDER for two new assault ships to equip Britain's soon-to-be-launched rapid reaction force is being held up as the Ministry of Defence battles with GEC Marine, its monopoly supplier, over price.

With two years' work already in its order book, GEC Marconi, Britain's biggest defence contractor, part of the General Electric Company, is using all its leverage to maximise payments for the ships, costing more than £100 million each.

The MoD is seeking a tender on the basis of no acceptable price, no contract. But the ships, which carry landing craft, helicopters and up to 800 Marines each to launch sea-bourne assaults, are urgently needed if Britain's ability to project military power overseas is to be restored.

According to the Parliamentary defence select committee, Britain is now incapable of launching a Falklands-style invasion. *HMS Fearless*, the 31-year old assault ship is completing a much-delayed refit, but MoD sources say *HMS Intrepid*, its 29-year old sister vessel, is so badly corroded that it is unlikely ever to return to sea.

A spokesman for VSEL, the Barrow-in-Furness shipbuilder now owned by GEC, said the yard was determined to win the assault-ship work. "Negotiations are still going on," he said. The contracts were expected to be placed last year. But MoD sources suggest the aim now is to secure a deal before the summer parliamentary recess.

Swan Hunter, VSEL's only remaining rival in the construction of large warships, went into administration in 1994 after VSEL offered to *HMS Ocean*, build Britain's first helicopter assault ship, for £139 million. Swan Hunter priced the same 20,500 tonne ship at £211 million.

VSEL cut the cost dramatically by sub-contracting construction and basic fitting out of the 600 ft hull to Kvaerner Govan, a civil yard on Clydeside, for £80 million. The National Audit Office subsequently estimated that VSEL had provided £25 million to £30 million of support to its bid, though company sources are reported to have put the figure closer to £10 million.

GEC Marconi subsequently bought VSEL after a bid battle with British Aerospace, and created GEC Marine to oversee management of both Barrow and its existing Yarrow frigate yard on the Clyde.

Yarrow has since undercut Vosper Thornycroft in Southampton, Britain's only other frigate builder, to secure its future with an MoD order for three Type-23 frigates.

But Barrow still has almost two years' work left for its 5,000 employees. *HMS Vengeance*, Britain's fourth Trident submarine, will not be completed until the end of 1997. The helicopter ship arrives from Govan this summer. Fitting defensive missiles, combat systems, helicopter handling equipment and other military hardware will take 18 months. In addition, the yard has secured its first civil contracts for 25 years, to build two 4,500 tonne oil tankers for James Fisher and Sons, of Barrow. VSEL can also be confident of a large share of work on the £3 billion contract to build up to five batch two Trafalgar class nuclear-powered hunter-killer submarines.

IOPC counts cost of oil spill

By Marianne Curphey

MORE than 100 delegates will meet in London tomorrow to assess the total cost of cleaning up the Welsh coast after the *Sea Empress* oil tanker ran aground at Milford Haven two months ago.

The meeting, called by the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (IOPC), will also look at the controversial issue of interim hardship payments to Welsh fishermen unable to fish in local waters since the disaster.

Fishermen, the tourist industry and wildlife groups have three years to lodge claims for damage and loss of income. Skuld, the *Sea Empress*'s Norwegian liability insurer, has so far paid out £215,000 in hardship payments to 62 people employed in the areas worst hit by the spillage.

The IOPC's executive committee will also examine Skuld's claims management procedure.

Insurers say they will need another ten days to examine the *Sea Empress* in dry dock before deciding whether she is repairable. The ship is held at the Harland & Wolff shipyard in Belfast and is being cleaned before the damage is assessed. A number of companies have put in tenders for repair, but Harland & Wolff is likely to win the contract if repairs proceed.

Meanwhile, up to 75 fishermen waiting for compensation after the *Braer* tanker disaster in Shetland in 1993 may drop their claims against the IOPC. Unlike the Milford Haven fishermen, many of whom have hired loss adjustors on a no-win no-fee basis, the Shetland claimants are finding the cost too great.

CBI finds pay rises steady at 3.6%

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

PAY awards in Britain show no sign of accelerating, according to new figures from the Confederation of British Industry's Pay Databank published today.

Manufacturing pay awards averaged 3.6 per cent in the first quarter, provisional figures show, 3.6 per cent in the three months ended in February and 3.7 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year. Manufacturers also reported annual productivity gains, which averaged 4.3 per cent in the first quarter, against 3.4 per cent in the previous quarter.

Since the beginning of August, the Pay Databank shows that one in eight manufacturing settlements were at or below 2.5 per cent and two in five were between 2.5 per cent and 3.5 per cent. One deal in three was between 3.5 per cent and 4.5 per cent and only one in seven was above 4.5 per cent.

Pay awards in service sector firms averaged 3.6 per cent, according to provisional figures, in the first quarter, compared with 3.8 per cent in the three months ended in February and 3.4 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year.

Protest looms as Savoy chief's salary leaps 60%

By Jon Ashworth

DIRECTORS of the Savoy Group are braced for a storm of protest over pay when shareholders gather for the annual meeting on May 20.

It has emerged that Ramon Pajares, managing director, was paid £308,745 last year — well up on his predecessor, Giles Shepard, and that the company is seeking to amend its articles of association in the hope of tripling the amount payable in directors' fees.

Details are laid bare in the 1995 annual report, which touches on the fortunes of Savoy Group gems, including Claridge's, The Berkeley, Simpson's-in-the-Strand, and the Savoy itself.

Mr Pajares, whose attempts at modernisation have angered Savoy traditionalists, is in line for a one-off bonus of £150,000 if certain profit targets are achieved. Last year, he received a salary of £181,231 plus a bonus of £84,196.

Other emoluments and pension contributions lifted his package to £308,745. Mr Shepard, who resigned in September 1994, and is now managing director of the Ritz, received £187,316 in salary and other emoluments in 1994. However, a golden handshake worth £569,000 took his total 1994 package to £756,641.

Mr Pajares is entitled to a bonus of between 30 per cent and 50 per cent if profit targets are hit. He will receive a one-off bonus of £150,000 if pre-tax profits exceed an amount, to be fixed, between £18 million and £20 million. The Savoy made £11.5 million (£4.4 million) last year. The report further discloses that Mr Pajares is on a three-year rolling contract, reducing to two years after November 1997, and to one year from November 1988.

Giles Shepard resigned from the Savoy in September 1994

Rowland Leigh, former company secretary, was paid £198,000 in compensation for loss of office after his departure in January 1995. The Savoy board is seeking to amend its articles of association to increase the maximum "pool" available in directors' fees from £50,000 to £150,000. It says the current cap "restricts the company's ability to remunerate directors in accordance with their contribution and market rates".

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the One Hundred and Seventieth Annual General Meeting of the Members of Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society will be held in the principal office, Amicable House, 150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NQ, on Tuesday, 23rd April 1996, at 4.00 pm.

By Order of the Directors
J. C. Mitchell, Secretary
6th March 1996

Scottish Amicable

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Royal Agricultural Society of England will be held at the National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire on Tuesday 14th May 1996 at 12 noon for the following purposes:

1. To receive the audited Accounts for the year ended 30th September 1996 and the Report of the Council.
2. To elect a President, a Chairman of the Council, Trustees and Vice-Presidents to hold office for the year next ensuing (October 1996 to September 1997).
3. To take cognizance of the appointment by the Council of Nominated Members of Council and of the election of Ordinary Members of the Council.
4. To appoint Auditors to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
5. To authorise the Council to fix the remuneration of the Auditors.
6. To transact any other ordinary business of the Society.

By Order of the Council
J P JOHNSON
Secretary
Royal Agricultural Society of England
National Agricultural Centre
Stoneleigh Park
Warwickshire
April 1996

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity of Margaret Catherine Duffus.
Scheme for the regulation of the Charity.
Reference: MF/3060319/9993-CDL/dn0.
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, citing the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-481 1982
FAX: 0171-782 7827

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

BULLIVANT, ANNIE BULLIVANT SPINSTER late of Leeds died there on 1 March 1996 (Estate about £5,254)
GARDNER, LESLIE JAMES GARDNER late of Hampstead, London NW3 died at Westminster, London W1, on 25 March 1995. (Estate about £50,000)
HEANUE, THOMAS HEANUE otherwise THOMAS FRANCIS HEANUE late of Ripon, North Yorkshire died at Harrogate, North Yorkshire on 11 November 1995 (Estate about £16,000)
HUBBARD, ERNEST EDWARD HUBBARD late of Streatham, London SW16 died there on 10 April 1996 (Estate about £5,335)
JONES nee TAYLOR, EDITH JONES nee TAYLOR WIDOW late of Builth Wells, Powys died there on 20 October 1995 (Estate about £65,000)
LAFFERTY, JOSEPH LAFFERTY late of South Lambeth SW8 died at Lambeth, London SE1 on 25 June 1995 (Estate about £9,000)
PATTERSON, MARK PATTERSON late of Charlton, London SE7 died at Greenwich, London SE10 on 29 December 1995 (Estate about £43,000)
RAINE nee ROCKLIFFE, LOUISA EMILY RAINE nee ROCKLIFFE WIDOW late of Tooting, London SW17 died there on 26 June 1992 (Estate about £6,300)
TAYLOR, ELSIE ROSE TAYLOR otherwise ELSIE ROSA TAYLOR WIDOW late of Camden, London NW3 died there on 9 January 1989 (Estate about £5,500)
TAYLOR, ERNEST TAYLOR late of Gravesend, Kent died at Rochester, Kent on 26 December 1994 (Estate about £10,000)
The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
In the matter of Entertainment Partnership Ltd and in the matter of The Insolvency Act 1986
Registered number: 02270987. Former company names: Entertainment Productions Ltd. Nature of business: Media. Trade classification: 39. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 3 April 1996. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Coutts & Co Joint Administrative Receivers, 99, James and 8 Treasury Office Holder nos: 2129 and 6777. KPMG Corporate Recovery, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP, and 1 Forest Gate, Brighton Road, Crawley RH11 9PT.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
- and -
RACE CORPORATION LIMITED
TRADING ADDRESS:
P O BOX 68
DOUGLAS
ISLE OF MAN IM99 1EC
REGISTERED OFFICE:
AKARA BUILDING
24 DE CASTRO STREET
WICKHAMS CAYL
ROAD TOWN
TORTOLA
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
Notice is hereby given that Adrian Richard Stanway and Joseph Patrick Considine of Cork Gully, Plumtree Court, London EC4A 4HT were appointed Liquidators of the above named Company by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on 27 March 1996.
Dated this 3rd day of April 1996
J P Considine - Liquidator.

No.001182 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF BIRSE GROUP plc
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 27th March 1996 confirming the cancellation of the share premium account of the above named Company in the sum of £27,432,000 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 3rd April, 1996.
Dated the 15th April, 1996
Allen & Overy
One New Change,
London EC4M 9QQ.
Solicitors
for the above-named Company

Notice of Appointment of Sole Liquidator and Notice to Creditors to Claim
Columbia Offset (UK) Limited
(In Liquidation)
Principal Trading Address: 43 Lower Belgrave Street, London SW1 0LS.
Company Number: 1707809
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 2 April 1996 R Preece was appointed liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).
Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to the liquidator at the following address under reference: YFB/CJT.
Deloitte & Touche PO Box 810, Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London EC4A 3TR.

Parkfield Hospital Limited
In Administrative Receivership
Registered Number: 2906242
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA on 19 April 1996 at 11.00 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA, not later than 12.00 hrs on 18 April 1996 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Malcolm Cohen,
Joint Administrative Receiver.

BOS CONSTRUCTION (SOUTHERN) PLC
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 109 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that Richard Andrew Segal of A Segal & Co, Albert Chambers, 221-223 Chingford Mount Road, London E4 8LP was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company on the 31st October 1995 by the Members.
Dated: 10th April 1996.
R A Segal, Liquidator.

Four Star Technologies Limited
The Insolvency Act 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter S Dunn FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 10th April 1996.
Dated this 10th April 1996.
Peter S. Dunn, FCA Liquidator.

Voluntary Service Housing Developments Limited
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 Notice is hereby given that I, Peter S Dunn, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 10th April 1996.
Dated this 10th April 1996.
Peter S Dunn, FCA Liquidator.

P&O leads race for Geelong port

From Rachel Bridge in Sydney

P&O has emerged as a leading bidder for Australia's Port of Geelong in what would mark the company's first acquisition of a port.

The Port of Geelong, which is expected to carry a price of up to A$100 million, (£52.3 million) is a bulk and special cargo port which receives 400 ships a year carrying petroleum products, grain, bauxite and fertilisers.

Richard Hein, the managing director of P&O's Australian arm, said: "It will be a whole new area of investment for us. We believe that we could run it extremely professionally and as well as anyone else. It is a good infrastructure investment." In the year to June 30 last year, the Port of Geelong, near Melbourne, made a net profit of A$9 million, against A$7.8 million.

P&O, under the chairmanship of Lord Sterling of Plaistow, has made no secret of its desire to expand its maritime operations in Australia and already operates container terminals in Sydney, Melbourne, and Fremantle, as well as stevedoring activities in a further 40 ports around Australia. The group also manages a number of container terminals in other areas of the world including Russia, China and Argentina from its base in Australia. Up to now, however, P&O has never owned a port outright, concentrating instead on managing operations within state-owned ports.

The proposed acquisition of the Port of Geelong marks P&O's first attempt at expanding its operations in Australia since its ill-fated bid last year for ANL, the country's government-owned national shipping line. P&O was eventually forced to abandon its bid after months of negotiations when Australia's powerful maritime unions threatened to call a national waterfront strike if the sale went ahead without their consent, claiming that P&O had a poor industrial relations record in the UK.

The acquisition of ANL would have positioned P&O as the dominant player in the Australasian shipping industry, controlling main trade routes to Asia, and across the Tasman. Last year P&O Australia made operating profits of A$95 million on turnover of about A$1.3 billion.

Sterling: expansion-minded

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5112 (-0.0168)
German mark
2.2731 (+0.0109)
Exchange index
83.6 (Same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2804.4 (+7.7)
FT-SE 100
3766.8 (+11.2)
New York Dow Jones
5532.59 (-150.29)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
21660.47 (+189.31)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.01	1.85
Austria Sch	16.98	15.48
Belgium Fr	49.64	45.34
Canada $	2.156	1.996
Cyprus Cyp£ .	0.749	0.694
Denmark Kr ...	9.38	8.58
Finland Mkk ...	7.66	7.01
France Fr	8.12	7.47
Germany Dm .	2.42	2.22
Greece Dr	386.00	361.00
Hong Kong $	12.33	11.33
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1600	4.5100
Italy Lira	2480.00	2325.00
Japan Yen	178.40	162.40
Malta	0.591	0.536
Netherlds Gld	2.690	2.480
New Zealand $	2.38	2.16
Norway Kr	10.41	9.61
Portugal Esc ..	244.50	226.00
S Africa Rd	6.73	5.93
Spain Pta	197.00	184.00
Sweden Kr	10.74	9.94
Switzerland Fr	1.98	1.80
Turkey Lira	114257.	106257.
USA $	1.608	1.478

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

BANCO DO BRASIL

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE CHANGE OF OPENING HOURS

Banco do Brasil S.A. wishes to inform clients and correspondent banks in the United Kingdom that, with effect from 3rd June 1996, the counters of the London branch will be open to the public on London business days between the hours of 12pm and 4pm daily. Access to the Bank for purposes other than retail transactions will remain unchanged.

Mammon's stakeholders massacre the mutuals

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Britain in 1996 has a new version of a run on the savings bank. Building societies are having to close their doors early to depositors, or resort to the equivalent of taking money in sixpences, to stem the flood of speculative money coming *in*. It is redolent of a *fin de siècle* atmosphere that has little to do with the date. Rather, it illuminates the fag-end of a vital economic revolution that lost its way and let Mammonites instal themselves as the nation's new semi-official priesthood.

In this looking-glass world, taxpayers have to pay more subsidies to swill the dregs of state assets into the private sector and financial service businesses reach new peaks of confidence because they are planning to sack employees faster. Free competition requires more bureaucratic controls, permanently. Gas supply is thrown into confusion that undermines service and multiplies dissatisfaction, all in the name of consumers: and Britain's second force telecoms business is readied to be flogged to the highest foreign bidder because common sense, along with any vision of the country's long-term interest, has been dissolved in a tirade of theologically pure regulatory evangelism.

This phase may prove temporary but its effects will be with us for many years ahead. The decline of the mutual sector is typical. For the assurers and building societies concerned, it may well be a healthy development in an era when permanence and certainty are in drought, unpredictable change is rampant and financial flexibility therefore paramount. But who knows? The urge to convert stems from competitive market forces, but the sudden stampede owes more to the ambitions of managers, oiled by savers' sensible desire to bag cash windfalls while they can.

Building societies prospered originally because, as low-cost, non-profit bodies, they could offer better terms to savers and to ordinary people who wanted to buy a house. Savers were generally loyal because they or their children wanted to become borrowers. But most of the big building societies have been run increasingly like joint stock banks for years, ever since easy money broke the link between saving and borrowing and opened up competition. As big societies maximised profits for growth, there ceased to be much feeling that members were, how can one put it, stakeholders.

Mutuality is a state of mind. If managers operate like bankers and treat members as no more than customers, there is not much point in having an old-fashioned financial structure that feather-beds the board. For members, under 1990s Mammonite culture, ownership is about control and a fast buck. Mutual life assurance companies, faced with comparable pressures, may find the same applies to them.

The stampede that is expected to catch up with Bristol & West today needed two factors to come together. The slump in the housing market left all those new branches stranded, and societies, with more money than they could prudently lend, chasing low-risk borrowers and spending heavily to diversify. Mergers accelerated. Then voting members discovered that they could benefit from agreeing to these mergers under the recent law allowing societies to convert to plc status. As soon as Lloyds Bank bid cash for Cheltenham & Gloucester, the traditional building society merger was dead.

There is, however, a catch. If societies are trying to escape from the shrunken housing market, why are banks so keen to expand into it? One theory is that bank herds are genetically programmed to thunder headlong from one lending disaster to the next. A recent survey of bankers by the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation found that the hot favourite for the next disaster was that competition and overcapacity would lead them to take silly lending risks again.

Even after 1990s repossessions and negative equity, banks still see mortgages as a much safer zone for expansion than, say, big corporate lending, Third World debt or small business. In the past week, however, competition has toughened as mutuals hit back. The Nationwide and the Yorkshire, rediscovering their old roots, cut lending rates by cutting profit margins. They can do this, they argue, because they do not have to pay dividends on their capital.

The banks and neo-banks could respond in kind, relying on claimed lower borrowing costs. They could take hidden risks by lending more on less security to higher-risk borrowers. Or they could forsake market share and put the surplus cash in government bonds. But it takes a brave bank boss to do that.

The Nationwide's return to old ways could revive the sector's worth or prove to be just a short-term tactic to capture business in thin times. As the flood of cash into smaller societies shows, the pressure to convert is becoming irresistible. Some should resist, setting deposit rates for new members so that they can make a turn in the money markets. Mutual insurance companies can overcome their selling problems by cutting costs and growing more slowly, thereby usually giving savers a better deal.

The Co-operative Bank is making use of its peculiar status to offer a different service to customers who want a bank with "ethical" lending policies. Some smaller societies already provide a niche service that the plc sector shuns. Others will need to get closer to their customers.

If the welfare state is to develop the way some thinkers on both left and right project, people are likely to need non-state organisations to offer contracts for pensions and mutual insurance against insecurity that are unlikely to satisfy a conventional plc's risk/reward calculus. It would be ironic, but not surprising, if, by then, the best-placed sector has just been wiped out.

Following in father's footsteps

Sarah Cunningham on sons, and sometimes, daughters taking over top posts from their fathers

In the frame: Sir Rocco Forte, son of Lord Forte, found himself on the receiving end of a bid by Granada

Any tycoon's son or daughter considering entering the family firm could be forgiven for thinking twice. Who would wish themselves into the shoes of Sir Rocco Forte or Peter Baring, watching the family business slip between their fingers?

The potential for public humiliation is huge, yet any success or promotion of the younger generation is dismissed, resentfully, as the result of nepotism.

But research suggests that family companies often enjoy above average success. A study by the Stoy Centre for Family Business in London showed that in the 21 years from 1970 to 1991, the shares of listed family companies outperformed the FT all-share index by nearly 30 per cent.

Barbara Dunn, director of Glasgow Caledonian University's Centre for Family Enterprise, says that investors' suspicion of family firms is based on prejudice. "I have interviewed accountants and stockbrokers and they start off with the assumption that most family firms are tuppenny, ha'penny affairs. But in many cases, people running companies see themselves as custodians of the family wealth."

The centre runs programmes designed to help families cope with the stresses of running a business. Such programmes are rare in Britain but common in America and increasingly popular in Italy, where handing a company down the family — even one the size of Fiat — is considered the norm.

Those running the programmes say that experience shows that big, publicly quoted family companies face many of the same problems as small ones. "People are used to classifying firms by size and sector. But if it is owned or run by a family, it makes all the difference," Ms Dunn says.

In spite of the well publicised family firm disasters, many company heads continue to push their sons, and occasionally daughters, forward. Cameron O'Reilly, the 31-year-old son of Tony O'Reilly, head of Independent Newspapers, last month became chief executive of Australian Provincial Newspapers, Australia's largest regional newspaper publisher. Kerry Packer has handed control of his £1.5 billion publishing and broadcasting empire to his son, James, 28. Packer Senior inherited the company from his father and is expected to keep a close eye on the business.

Peter Leach, of the Stoy centre, says the danger period for a company comes when it is handed down to the third generation: "By the third generation, you often have a diversity of shareholders and their interests and the interest of the family in charge do not coincide." The family, in these cases, often finds itself outvoted and waving goodbye to the company bearing its name.

Professor Peter Storey of Warwick University's Business School, says there are two types of succession. The first is what he calls the Baxters model. Scotland's Baxters has been making soup and jams since 1868, has been smoothly handed down from generation to generation, and is still family run: the perfect family company success story.

The second is what Professor Storey calls the "red Porsche model". In these cases, he says: "There is a 25-year-old younger son who takes over and irritates all the managers who are in their forties or fifties and can see he doesn't understand the firm. He takes the job because he enjoys having a red Porsche."

According to Mr Leach, success is most likely if a family has a strong cultural, religious or ethnic identity that encourages it to stick together. Good examples of this are the Quaker Rowntree and Cadbury family firms. The other crucial factor is ensuring there are good non-family executives in the company. Cesare Romiti, who last month became chairman of Fiat when Giovanni Agnelli stepped down, was an excellent and loyal managing director. He is now seen as keeping the seat warm for Signor Agnelli's 31-year-old nephew.

Depending on how you calculate it, up to 75 per cent of British firms are family-run and certain family names will forever be associated with a type of business. Sainsbury, for example, is synonymous with supermarkets and the family has kept a tight control on the company since it was founded in 1869. All the chairmen have been members of the Sainsbury family. But now there is no obvious family candidate to take over when David Sainsbury retires.

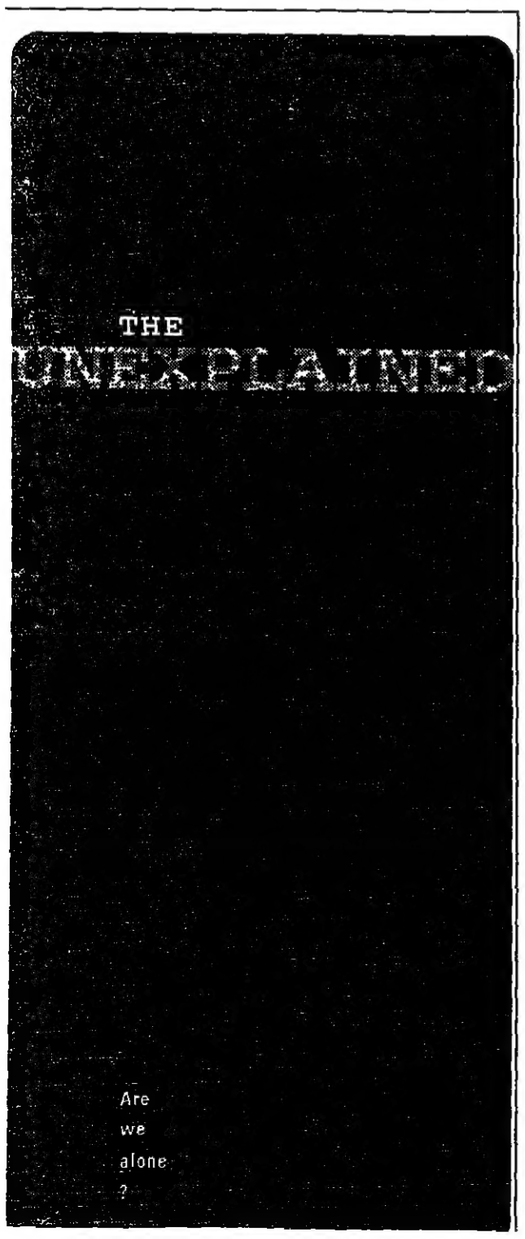
In the long run, Sainsbury's could go the way of Guinness. A prominent Irish dynasty, it now has little to do with the brewing business that made it famous. Likewise, Barings is a name that will always be associated with banking, but — thanks to Nick Leeson — Peter Baring will almost certainly be the last of the family to be the bank's chairman.

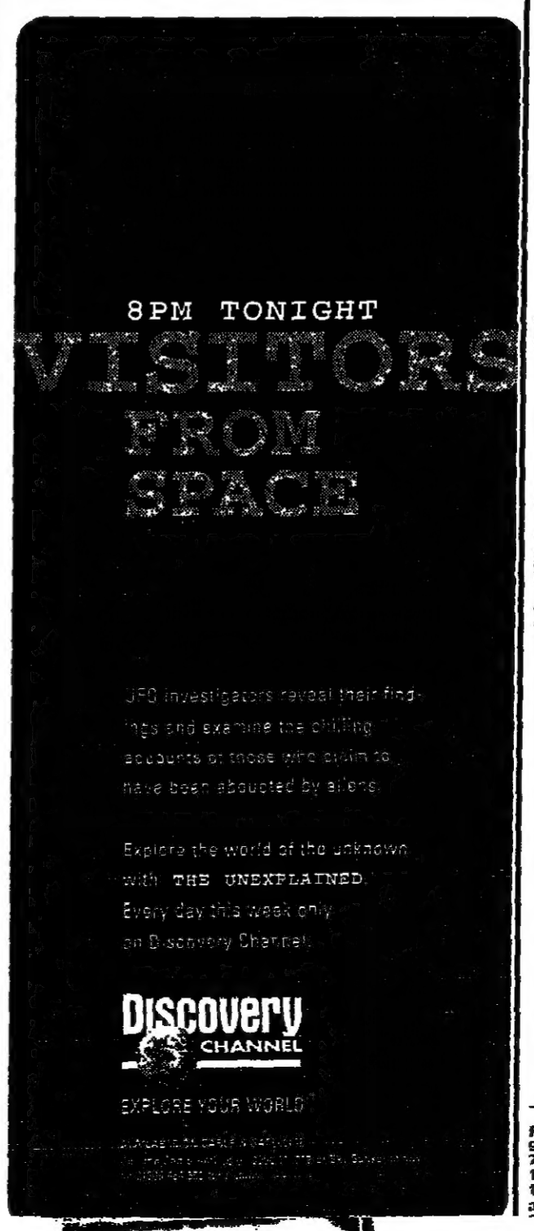
Mars is still owned by America's Mars family and run by the grandchildren of the founder. John and Forrest (Junior) Mars and their sister, Jacqueline, manage the business founded by Frank Mars in the mid-1920s and built up by his son, Forrest. As it is privately owned and secretive, it is impossible to judge how well Mars is doing or guess its plans for when the current owner-managers want to retire.

In British industry, there is another succession that is now expected *not* to happen. The Hanson conglomerate plans to break itself up. It now looks as though Lord Hanson's son, Robert, will never take the top job from his father.

In spite of all his advantages and whatever his abilities, the dice are loaded against him.

One City follower said that from the investors' point of view, while having sons or daughters come into the company can be a good thing, putting them in charge is problematic. "They are usually very nice, very well educated: after all they have never had to struggle. But that doesn't mean they have their father's abilities and it is always difficult to argue that an outside candidate wouldn't do a better job."





WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 33

YAGER
(c) An obsolete kind of rifle, used in colonial America against the natives, also the *yager rifle*. "Nine Pipes came to get a nipple to put on his Yager Rifle."

VACKY
(b) An evacuee, especially a child evacuated from the city to the country, especially at the beginning of the 1939-45 war. A pet name abbrev. "The Wortbridgers distrusted the vaccies with their quick ways and sharp, pinched faces."

SOLVITUR AMBULANDO
(a) An appeal to practical experience for the solution of a problem or proof of a statement. The Latin phrase means literally: "It [the problem] is solved by walking." Originally an allusion to the reported proof by Diogenes the Cynic of the possibility of motion. "How easily the solvitur ambulando of an artist like Mr Tennyson may disturb a whole chain of ingenious reasoning on the possibilities of things."

TENDU
(b) In the jargon of ballet, stretched out or held tautly, especially in *battement tendu*. The past participle of the French *tendre* to stretch. "The return, with the Russian masters of 1925-30, of the traditional French style, strictly tendu."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

RADIO CHOICE

Double treat at the opera

Cavalleria Rusticana and I Pagliacci. *Radio 3, 7.10pm.*
Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*

You and I have a difficult and delicious choice to make tonight. Both Radio 3 and Classic FM will celebrate Welsh National Opera's 50th anniversary. Radio 3's relay of "Cav" and "Pag" from Cardiff, is live. Classic FM's celebrations will be on records. All feature the WNO's orchestra. They include arias from *Turandot*, *La Cenerentola*, *Tosca* and *The Pearl Fishers*. The longer work is Delius's Violin Concerto, with Tasmin Little as soloist. In "Cav" and "Pag," the leading roles are sung by Dennis O'Neill, Peter Sidhom, Anne-Marie Owens and Rosalind Sutherland. The man with the baton is Carlo Rizzi.

The Monday Play: A Yearning. *Radio 4, 7.45pm.*

Lorca set his tragedy *Yerma* in Spain, his homeland. Ruth Carter's adaptation is set in Birmingham, and the characters are Asians. The geographical location is not of paramount importance. The theme of *The Yearning* is universal — the individual's right to challenge repressive conventions in a community that is not averse to being hypocritical when it suits its purposes. The childless Amar (heart-rendingly well played by Sudha Bhuchar) believes that it is entirely her fault that she is barren. Her need for a child has become desperate, and her self-centred husband (Riz Abassi) is completely indifferent to her plight. The stage is set for a climax that is as unexpected as it is shattering.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans, incl Newsbeat **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **7.00** Evening Session. Green Day in session **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 3.00am Alex Lester **6.00** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Malcolm Laycock with Dance Band Days, and at **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **10.00** Radio Days **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden, incl **1.30** Pause for Thought at **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **6.55, 7.55** racing preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl **10.35** News from Europe, **12.00 Midday with Mair**, incl **12.34pm** Moneycheck, and at **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.05** Actuality **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Wembley Winners. FA Cup 1978 — Ipswich v Arsenal **8.00** The Monday March. Arsenal v Tottenham from Highbury **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.30am The Breakfast Show with Paul Ross **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **5.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Sport **10.00** James Whale **1.00** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. **5.00am** News **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Soundbyte **7.30** Andy Kershaw **8.00** News **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Vintage Chart Show **9.00** News in German **9.15** Fine Tuning **9.45** Mastersingers **10.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** Anything Goes **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf **12.00** News **12.30** Omnibus **1.00** News in German **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Andy Kershaw **2.00** News **3.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** John Peel **4.00** News **4.05** Sport **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.00** News **6.10** World Today **6.25** Take Five **6.30** News in German **7.00** News **7.30** In Good Voice **8.00** News **9.00** News **9.01** Outlook **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** Multitrack: Hit List **10.00** News **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Medicine Cabinet **10.45** Arty Facts **11.00** News **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **Midnight** News **12.10am** Take Five **12.15** Record News **12.30** Multitrack: Hit List **1.00** News **1.30** Global Concerns **1.45** Britain Today **2.00** News **2.30** Outlook **2.55** World of Faith **3.00** Newsday **3.30** Meridian **4.00** News **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **8.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Newsnight **6.30** Sonata. Brahms (Violin Sonata in D minor) **7.00** Celebrity Choice (r) **8.00** Evening Concert. See Choice **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Byrd (Mass for Three Voices); Beethoven (Triple Concerto I C); Vivaldi (Oboe Concerto in B flat, Op 7 No 7); Schubert (piano Sonata No 11 in F minor, D 625); Maks Goldins (Zemele, 18 Jewish Folk Songs); Milhaud (Suite: The Bells)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Catriona Young. Gershwin (Cuban Overture); Chopin (Two Polonaises, Op 71 Nos 1 and 2); Bruch (Kol Nidrei); Mozart (Symphony No 35 in D, K385, Haffner)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page. *Artist of the Week*. Charles Groves, conductor. Delius (Lebenstanz) **10.16** Charpentier (Medee Act 1); Muffat (Sonata No 2 in G minor) **11.06** Beethoven (Sonata in C, Op 2 No 3); Schubert (Symphony No 3 in D)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Claude Debussy. Suite: Printemps, Harmonie du soir; La Damoiselle élue; Prelud a l'après-midi d'un faune
1.00pm BBC Lunchtime Concert. Presented by Susan Sharpe. Live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Peter Jablonski, piano. Liszt (Funerailles, Harmonies poetique et religeuses); Debussy (Prelude: Feux D'artifice, Bk 11 No 12; La Cathédrale engloutie, Bk 1 No 10); Grieg (Sonata in E minor)
2.00 Schools The Song Tree **2.15** Storybox **2.25** Let's Move **2.45** First Steps in Drama
3.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Alexander Titov. Ravel (Suite: Ma mere l'moye); Ibert (Concertino da camera)
4.30 Blue Angels, Blue Devils. The last programme in the series looking at jazz in Nazi Germany (r)
5.00 The Music Machine, with Janice Forsyth
5.15 In Tune. Includes, Morley (April is my mistris face) **5.03** Haydn (Piano Trio in G, H XV 15) **5.30** Rachmaninov (Spring Waters, Op 14 No 11)
7.10 Cav and Pag. See Choice. The 50th anniversary of the Welsh National Opera. Nicola Heywood Thomas introduces the popular double bill, live from the New Theatre in Cardiff. Cavalleria rusticana, with Dennis O'Neill, tenor, Anne-Marie Owens, mezzo, and Mena Davies, mezzo **8.30** Until the Fat Lady Sings, with Michael Oliver **8.55** Pagliacci, with Peter Sidhom, baritone, Dennis O'Neill, tenor, Anthony Mee, tenor, Rosalind Sutherland, soprano, Jason Howard, baritone, and the Chorus and Orchestra of the Welsh National Opera under Carlo Rizzi
10.20 Emotion Pictures. The first of five tributes to the film director Wim Wenders, dramatised by Neil Cargill. Starring Peter Capaldi, James Cosmo, David Ryall and Gina McKee
10.45 Mixing It, with Mark Russell and Robert Sandall
11.30 Composer of the Week: Georg Muffat (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather
1.00-2.00 Night School Letterbox **1.20** Singing Together

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00am** News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Beyond the Millennium, with Sheena McDonald (1/6) **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week
10.00 News; Big Bang, with Jez Nelson
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-580-4444
12.00pm News; You and Yours
12.25 Counterpoint 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Flowers of the Forest. Donald Campbell's account of one of the great wars between Scotland and England in the 15th century with Michael MacKenzie, Monica Gibb, and Kern Falconer (r)
3.00 The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Lynne Walker considers the career of solo violinist, chamber music player and conductor, Yehudi Menuhin, who celebrates his 80th birthday this year
4.45 Short Story: Low Lights, by Carol Ann Fraser. Read by Dona Beeson (r)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The News Quiz, with Barry Took, Steve Punt, Frances Whiten, Joan Bakewell and Jeremy Hardy (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme. Derek Cooper takes a look at the breadmaking industry, especially the traditional breadmakers who are finding it difficult to compete with the supermarkets (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: A Yearning. See Choice
8.45 Tahiti in a Cold Climate The true story of the evacuation to the mainland, in 1930, of the inhabitants of St Kilda, the remote archipelago, 50 miles west of the Outer Hebrides
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Devil's Own Work, by Alan Judd. Read by Ian Holm (1/5) (r)
11.00 A Week in the Life In the last of the series, Alphege Bell's audio diary gives an insight into a young black lawyer's first week as a pupil barrister in London chambers (r)
11.30 Uncle Dynamite (FM only) by P G Wodehouse, adapted by Richard Usborne. Starring Richard Briers as Uncle Fred and Hugh Grant as Pongo, with narration by Paul Eddington (4/6) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
11.45 Paganini's Medical Notes (LW only) Michael Oliver examines the life of the great violinist (r)
12.00 News incl **12.27am** Weather
12.30 The Late Book Kitchen. Emily Woolf reads Banana Yoshimoto's story (1/5)
12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary**

Dial 999 for gore, guilt and tautology

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

Fear and pity are supposedly the ingredients of great drama, which is why **999** (BBC1, Fridays) is almost terrific television. I say "almost" because unfortunately *999* gives us fear and pity, but also a big unappetising dollop of condescension. "I am a worthless person," laments the viewer of *999* afterwards. "My life-saving capabilities are a disgrace." Few popular programmes ask you to examine your conscience so regularly. Afterwards, I sometimes get a roll of bandage out of the First Aid box, and look intently at the sleeping cat, and think miserably, "Shall I? Dare I? No."

Now, clearly *999*'s interest in improving the nation's first aid is admirable, but it also feels uncomfortably like grace before grub in a borstal: it is the pious lecture you must suffer as prelude to the gory reconstructions. For, despite the repeated necessity of viewing the screen through knitted fingers, there is little to compare with the exquisite prurient thrill of watching blokes inadvertently sawing into their own legs, or reckless adolescents getting stuck down a lead mine. Few of the stories on Friday involved the practical application of first-aid knowledge, incidentally: instead they involved resourceful people dialling 999. So a mixed message is sent to the public here. Personally (this is true), I once phoned the life guard when I saw a distress flare over the Channel. I felt proud. But it turned out rather weirdly: "Yes, we know about the flares," said the life guard, kindly. "They are filming a reconstruction for *999*."

Satire leaves no mark on a programme like *999*. When BBC2's *The Day Today* memorably spoofed the genre (an item about a sheep dog in control of a light aircraft, and a resourceful shepherd whistling instructions from the control tower), it was unlikely *999* would disappear in a puff of embarrassment, even if such an outcome would have been nice. But it is extraordinary that, after so much ridicule, no self-examination prevents Michael Buerk adhering to such tautological phrases as "a sudden *and unexpected* accident" as though proud to roll them out.

Anyone expecting routine reconstruction of the Battle of Culloden last night on BBC2 will have been amazed by what they saw. I know I was. The newly made **Rebellion** was shown with the 1964 **Culloden**, and together they made an absorbing, intelligent two hours, shedding light not only on the historical episode itself, but on changing methods of history, and on changing methods of presenting it.

While *Rebellion* used talking-head historians (whose views conflicted), and told the whole story of the Jacobite cause, *Culloden* focused on the battle and, through commentary and mock interviews with the officers and men (bedraggled in rain, with pustules and blackened teeth any make-up person would wince at today), presented warring humanity in all its confusion and cruelty. "This is grapeshot," said the narrator coolly. "This is what it does." Peter Watkins went on to make *The War Game*. His *Culloden* is a masterpiece: let's hope it's not 250 years before it's shown again.

Did the makers of *Rebellion* know *Culloden* was to be re-shown? It would certainly explain why they chose a rather different (and very loaded) reconstruction technique, in which unarmed bearded Highlanders ran like hapless savages towards, not cannon or bayonets, but tanks. Yes, tanks. Well blow me down, if you will pardon the expression. Were all the red coats just hired out by Hollywood, or was this (more likely) a political point? At Culloden, many of the rebels were simply blown to bits by artillery, so it must have seemed a clever idea to show the superiority of the English "military machine" in this startling form, using stock footage of helicopters and armoured cars. Personally, however, I *couldn't* quite stomach it: the real differences between the armies were exaggerated enough, surely, without making the battle look like space technology versus cave dweller.

Gaby Roslin's new chat show on Saturday (Channel 4) luckily coincided with a lacklustre phase of the US Masters on BBC2, otherwise I can't promise I'd have stayed tuned. But Greg Norman was relentlessly maintaining his lead, the CBS pictures were bitty, the scoreboard was shown twice a minute, and Nick Faldo was miserably chewing the lip — so by comparison **The Gaby Roslin Show** certainly had an appeal.

Will this lively woman revive the chat show? Will she overturn recent preference for anti-chat, for clever interviewers outwitting dull guests in the cause of entertainment? We shall see. Most people seemed nervous on this first show, and the Kate Winslet interview (brilliant actress but gushy interviewee, calling everybody in show business "fabulous" and "supportive") reminded us of all the triteness Clive Anderson punctures for our sakes. If Gaby Roslin is to restore chummy, reverential chat (she slavered over her guests), perhaps the studio audience should not be led to expect *Don't Forget Your Toothbrush*. At the end of the show, Gaby promised: "Next week . . . *Tony Bennett*" — and elicited no "ooh"s whatsoever from an audience that had presumably never heard of him.

Elsewhere — damn, no room, no room — last night's **Triumph of the Nerds** (Channel 4) was a witty account of the early days of the personal computer, essential viewing for the next two weeks. But the really big news was the gobsmacking demise of girlfriend Alex in **Hamish Macbeth** (BBC1) — a series which, like *999*, is never afraid of accidents that are both sudden *and* unexpected.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (33198)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (64467)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (7611776)

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (7044738)

9.45 Kilroy (s) (1197931)

10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magainze (30931)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6890641) **12.05pm Room for Improvement.** DIY and decoration advice (s) (8678931)

12.35 Going for Gold. General knowledge quiz presented by Henry Kelly (s) (3736689)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (67554) **1.30 Regional News** and weather (94478486)

1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (44570950)

2.00 Columbo: Troubled Water. With Peter Falk (r) (Ceefax) (s) (44863)

3.30 Playdays (r) (s) (1619844) **3.50 Bodger and Badger** (r) (s) (7643318) **4.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks** (r) (5906919) **4.10 Fudge** (Ceefax) (s) (2809931) **4.35 F.O.T.** (Ceefax) (s) (9408641)

5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (1911592)

5.10 Blue Peter (Ceefax) (s) (1117196)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (683660)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (313)

6.30 Regional News magazines (370)

7.00 That's Showbusiness. Mike Smith hosts the showbiz panel game. (Ceefax) (s) (9573)

7.30 NEW **Watchdog Healthcheck.** Judith Hann, with Alice Beer, reports on health issues. This programme includes an investigation into last autumn's Pill scare and a report from America about a professor who claims to have discovered the secret of delaying the ageing process (Ceefax) (s) (554)

8.00 EastEnders. Arrangements for Ben's christening create problems for Kathy and Phil. (Ceefax) (s) (8221)

8.30 Crime Beat: Swipers 5. Martyn Lewis investigates credit-card crime, pickpocketing and shoplifting. (Ceefax) (s) (4028)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (5738)

9.30 Panorama: Britain's Waterloo? Peter Jay reports on Britain and a united Europe. (Ceefax) (972115)

10.10 CHOICE **Omnibus: Spike.** Profile of Spike Milligan (Ceefax) (s) (5452318) **NORTHERN IRELAND: 10.10** Room for Improvement **10.40** Omnibus **11.55** Film 96 with Barry Norman **12.25am** Film: Midnight Cowboy **2.15** Weather

11.25 Film 96 with Barry Norman (Ceefax) (s) (701134)

12.00 FILM: Loser Takes All (1990) with Robert Lindsay and Molly Ringwald. On honeymoon in Monte Carlo, a mild-mannered accountant turns his mathematical acumen to devising a system for beating casinos and enters a world of greed and corruption. Directed by James Scott (Ceefax) (s) (4885871)

1.20am Weather (7751790)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: The History of Maths (7645486) **6.25** Immigration, Prejudice and Ethnicity (9178736)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (4725486)

7.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (Ceefax) (78660) **8.00 Blue Peter** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (52047) **8.30 Songs of Praise** (r) (Ceefax) (9250080)

9.05 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00 - 10.25** Playdays (6899047) **2.00** Brum (60291736)

2.10 FILM: Promised a Miracle (1988) Fact-based story with Rosanna Arquette and Judge Reinhold as a fanatical religious couple accused of manslaughter. Directed by Stephen Gyllenhall (Ceefax) (802863) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) (2992660)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (283) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (45196)

5.00 Esther. Dame Thora Hird talks about her life (s) (7979)

5.30 The Wartime Kitchen and Garden. Gardener Harry Dobson and cook Ruth Mott recreate the Home Front of the Second World War (r) (Ceefax) (937)

6.00 FILM: A Distant Trumpet (1964) starring Troy Donahue, Suzanne Pleshette and Kent Smith. A spirited young US Cavalry officer finds love in the form of two young ladies and adventure by way of a full-blooded battle with a local Native American tribe when he is posted to a remote Arizona fort. The tribe's dialogue is subtitled. Directed by Raoul Walsh (14647405)

7.50 The British Academy Craft Awards. Ruby Wax hosts the film and television awards ceremony from London's Hilton Hotel (779405)

9.00 The X Files: The Jersey Devil. Mulder and Scully track a legendary creature that has roamed the New Jersey countryside for 40 years. When a man is attacked and partially eaten, Mulder is determined to prove the creature has struck again (r) (Ceefax) (s) (454573)

Andrew Lincoln plays Egg (9.45pm)

9.45 This Life. Drama series about five young solicitor friends, sharing a London house. Egg concludes that football is his only way forward. Miles begins to worry when Delilah agrees to take an HIV test, and Anna uses her feminine charms to advance her career. Starring Amita Dhiri, Andrew Lincoln and Daniela Nardini. (Ceefax) (s) (436738)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (744689)

11.15 Acting With . . . Jack Shepherd. Shepherd offers advice to a group of young actors on how to perform Shakespeare's speeches. (Ceefax) (329654)

12.00 Anjelica Huston's Favourite Films (r) (Ceefax) (s) (45806). Followed by **Weather**

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

CHOICE

Bramwell
ITV, 9.00pm

The Victorian medical drama returns for a second series, having hooked a satisfying ten million-plus audience for its first. The well-heeled father-and-daughter doctors (David Calder and Jemma Redgrave) are still running their hospital for the deserving poor in the London East End. Meanwhile Redgrave's Eleanor continues to fight for professional recognition at the time when women in medicine are still a rarity. She is a heroine again when she carries out an impromptu leg amputation after a train crash in the Underground. That the patient (Tom Georgeson) subsequently turns as nasty as his wound adds a melodramatic twist to an otherwise authentically-observed script by the show's creator, Lucy Gannon. The realism extends to the operations. The squeamish are hereby warned.

Rescue: Smoke Eaters
Channel 4, 9.00pm

What with *Blues and Twos* and *999*, not to mention fictional counterparts, the emergency services are hardly starved of television exposure. The rationale of this series, apart from paying tribute to the courage and heroism of the professionals, is to show how big disasters have been the spur to improving organisation and equipment. *Smoke Eaters* looks at two big London fires more than 30 years apart. In 1958 Smithfield meat market was set ablaze after fire broke out in storage cellars. Two firemen died and the incident compelled a radical overhaul of procedures. The King's Cross Underground fire of 1989 threw up more heroism and revealed more shortcomings. Both incidents are recalled through archive film and the fire fighters involved.

An Inspector Calls: Unplanned Erections
Channel 4, 9.30pm

A new series from John Pitman, remembered for his quirky contributions to BBC2's *40 Minutes*, deals with those whose job is to enforce rules. A seemingly unpromising topic reveals unexpected humour. Tonight we take to the road with the planning enforcement officers of the London Borough of Richmond. Headed by a burly extrovert called Alan Halfpenny, the team is known to colleagues as the SAS. Its prime target is an unsightly roof extension built without planning permission. The owner claims he no longer lives in the house. A nighttime stake-out proves otherwise. The "SAS" is also called in by allotment holders, headed by a redoubtable actress, Edna Doré, who are in dispute with a builder over a promised delivery of topsoil.

Omnibus: Spike
BBC1, 10.10pm (Scotland: Thursday, midnight)

A portrait of Spike Milligan reveals a sad clown but, as he approaches his 78th birthday, one whose sense of the absurd is as strong as ever. The manic side of this talented, sensitive man is at least as evident as the depressive. But he is still deeply affected by the break-up of his first marriage, for which he publicly takes the blame. "How do you wipe out your mistakes?" he asks his unseen interviewer. And there was the dreadful time when he had to tell his young children that their mother (his second wife) was dying of cancer. Even *The Goon Show* was a bitter-sweet success since the strain of writing 26 scripts a year for eight years came close to destroying him. Although younger comedy practitioners from John Cleese to Vic Reeves are happy to acknowledge their debt to him, Spike Milligan clearly feels under-appreciated. But laughter, thank goodness, keeps breaking in. **Peter Waymark**

6.00am GMTV (3606432)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (7052757)

9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (6876196)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (2489689)

10.35 This Morning (44289689)

12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) and weather (6896825)

12.30 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (3722486) **12.55 Shortland Street** (s) (3730405) **1.25 Coronation Street** (r). (Teletext) (5963047) **2.00 Home and Away.** (Teletext) (s) (54689912)

2.25 Chain Letters. (Teletext) (s) (54688047)

2.50 Garden Calendar. (Teletext) (4917221)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (7789776)

3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (7788047)

3.30 Caribou Kitchen (s) (8817931) **3.40 Tots TV** (7632202) **3.50 Old Bear Stories** (8828047) **4.05 Scooby Doo** (2813134) **4.25 Tiny Toon Adventures** (2899554) **4.50 The Big Bang.** (Teletext) (s) (8327467)

5.10 The List (3874478)

5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (463757)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (486)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (739738)

6.45 Sportsweek. (Teletext) (895080)

7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers (s) (4641)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (950)

8.00 World in Action: The Republic of Britain. A report on the rise of republicanism among the British. (Teletext) (s) (7919)

8.30 Police, Camera, Action! Driven to Distraction. More examples of dangerous driving (Teletext) (s) (9196)

Calder and Redgrave (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Bramwell.** (Teletext) (s) (1405)

10.00 News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (50689)

10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (952221)

10.40 NEW **Ballot Box.** Young first-time voters have the opportunity to challenge politicians on key issues. Presented by John Meredith (937202)

11.40 Heroes. Gareth Edwards meets his hero, the golfer Gary Player (915950)

12.10am Bushell on the Box (s) (1860993)

12.40 Football Extra (6046581)

1.25 Customs Classified (4448516)

2.10 Jones and Jury. A country and western band sue for unfair dismissal (s) (8985871)

2.35 FILM: Now or Never (1986). A weeple starring Eva Maties and Werner Stocker. Christel Buschmann directs (897264)

4.15 Music Box Profile (46524177)

4.30 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (70177)

5.00 An Invitation to Remember. Lionel Jeffries, part two (r) (42852)

5.30 ITN Morning News (33061). Ends **6.00**

As HTV WEST except:

2.50pm-3.20 Cat Crazy (4917221)

5.10-5.40 Onstage Backstage (3874478)

6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (894080)

10.40 Classical Gas (937202)

11.40 Artyfax (915950)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.25-12.30 My Story (6804844)

12.55 Coronation Street (3730405)

1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (79156641)

1.55 Home and Away (68263196)

2.25 Check It Out! (54679399)

2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (9618496)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3874478)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (88950)

10.40 The West at Work - Focus (759660)

11.10 Street Legal (539844)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (3730405)

1.25 Chain Letters (79156641)

1.55 A Country Practice (44551825)

2.20-3.20 Blue Heelers (3841950)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (3874478)

6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (894080)

10.40 Sport in Question (937202)

11.40 World Championship Boxing (787554)

1.25am Hotel Babylon (4457264)

2.50 Jones and Jury (5428448)

3.10 Film: Darker than Amber (101697)

4.50 Jobfinder (47671719)

5.20 Asian Eye (1159974)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.55pm Chain Letters (3730405)

1.25 Home and Away (79156641)

1.55 A Country Practice (68263196)

2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (5022689)

5.10 Home and Away (3874478)

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - the Listings (371738)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (486)

6.30-7.00 Country Ways (738)

10.40 The Pier (743009)

11.05 The Listings (465370)

11.10 Meridian Works (319592)

11.40 Beyond Reality (915950)

5.00am Freescreen (42852)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 Fifteen to One (8612738) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (80405) **9.00 The Golden Girls** (37738) **9.30 Film: The Mikado** (59614298) **11.10 The Three Stooges** (5516318) **11.30 Biker Mice from Mars** (6528399) **11.55 Terrytoons** (8671028) **12.00 Right to Reply** (40202) **12.30pm Alfred J. Kwak** (78573) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (83592) **1.30 Film: Knight Without Armour** (91283) **3.30 The Greatest** (844) **4.00 Jimmy's** (979) **4.30 Fruity Stories** (863) **5.00 5 Pump: Pwt a Parddu** (8132641) **5.15 5 Pump: Pfeil** (1990009) **5.30 Fifteen to One** (115) **6.00 Newyddion** (930937) **6.15 Heno** (543844) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (947115) **7.25 Taro Naw** (112318) **8.00 Jabas** (1931) **8.30 Newyddion** (7738) **9.00 Hidden Kingdoms** (9047) **10.00 Sgorio** (3333844) **11.05 Roseanne** (318863) **11.35 NYPD Blue** (545736) **12.30am Inner City Blues: The Tribute to Marvin Gaye** (405603)

8.35am Fifteen to One (r). (Teletext) (s) (8612738)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (80405)

9.00 The Golden Girls (r). (Teletext) (s) (37738)

9.30 FILM: The Mikado (1939) starring Kenny Baker. The Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera, directed by Victor Schertzinger (59614298)

11.10 Three Stooges (b/w). The comic trio are appointed royal guards (5516318)

11.30 Bush Tucker Man (r) (s) (2641)

12.00 Right to Reply (r). (Teletext) (s) (40202)

12.30pm Sesame Street (r) (69028) **1.30 Wowser** (68286047) **1.55 Pete Smith Specialties** (44559467)

2.20 FILM: Simon and Laura (1955) starring Peter Finch and Kay Kendall. A comedy, satrising 1950s television. Directed by Muriel Box. (Teletext) (127757)

4.00 Jimmy's (r). (Teletext) (s) (979)

4.30 Fifteen to One. (Teletext) (s) (863)

5.00 The Gaby Roslin Show (r) (s) (1554)

6.00 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy series (r). (Teletext) (888)

6.30 Hollyoaks. Teen soap set in Chester (Teletext) (s) (880)

7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) (952883)

7.55 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (262196)

8.00 Go Fishing. John Wilson demonstrates the art of working a float downstream in fast-flowing rivers. He then catches prime chub from his local River Wensum and offers tips on how to sex this frequently enigmatic species. (Teletext) (s) (1931)

The great Bobby Charlton (8.30pm)

8.30 The Greatest. The sixth of the 12-part series about 20th-century sportsmen. Gordon Kennedy presents profiles of the footballer Bobby Charlton and the athlete Steve Ovett. With resident panellists Frances Edmonds and Danny Kelly. (Teletext) (s) (7738)

9.00 CHOICE **Rescue.** (Teletext) (1776)

9.30 CHOICE **An Inspector Calls.** (Teletext) (65009)

10.00 FILM: Red Rock West (1993). The last in the Nicolas Cage season. A *film noir* thriller about a penniless drifter who arrives jobless in a small Wyoming town, where he is mistaken for a Texas hitman. Directed by John Dahl (312115)

11.55 The Late Late Show (s) (774080)

12.55am FILM: Arsène Lupin (1932, b/w) starring John and Lionel Barrymore. A vintage comedy thriller about a Parisian gentleman thief and the gendarme who is on his trail. Directed by Jack Conway (311210)

2.30 Karachi Kops. A repeat of the five-part series, behind the scenes of a police station in Karachi, Pakistan. English subtitles. (Teletext) (86992). Ends at **3.00**

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE

7.00am Undun (85793) **9.00** Press Your Luck (8531757) **9.30** Love Connection (9750486) **9.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (9451432) **10.40** Jeopardy! (2746486) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (9254318) **12.00** Beverly (17488) **1.00pm** Hotel (28124) **2.00** Geraldo (97221) **3.00** Court TV (4680) **3.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (5609134) **4.15** Undun (9256288) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (4660) **6.00** The Simpsons (8979) **6.30** Jeopardy! (2931) **7.00** LAPD (2689) **7.30** M*A*S*H (8115) **8.00** Sightings (63689) **9.00** Police Rescue (43625) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (46912) **11.00** Melrose Place (20047) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (7115142) **12.45am** The Trials of Rosie O'Neill (8579500) **1.30** Anything But Love (99448) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (8753526)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (8465370) **9.30** The Book Show (3183134) **10.10** CBS 60 Minutes (4722641) **1.30pm** CBS News (43115) **2.30** CBS News (31009) **3.30** The Book Show (7009) **6.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton (49028) **7.30** Sportsline (265950) **8.10** CBS 60 Minutes (957689) **11.30** CBS News (71047) **12.30am** ABC World News (12210) **1.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton Replay (3868326) **2.10** CBS 60 Minutes (1437806) **3.30** The Book Show (31245) **4.30** CBS News (46852) **5.30** ABC World News (75061)

SKY MOVIES

6.05am Knights of the Round Table (1953) (2323950) **8.00 The Miracle of Our Lady of Fátima** (1952) (88573) **10.00 The Return of Ironside** (1993) (98757) **12.00 The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come** (1961) (78196) **2.00pm Conrack** (1974) (80592) **4.00 A Christmas to Remember** (1978) (9592) **6.00 The Return of Ironside** (1993) (12115) **7.30 El Feature** (3283) **8.00 Wolf** (1994) (7712573) **10.05 The Piano** (1993) (4243399) **12.05am Fathers and Sons** (1992) (865974) **1.45 The Man from Left Field** (1993) (4732210) **3.20 Secret Sins of the Father** (1993) (44707564)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Best of Benny Hill (1974) (59628028) **5.45 Sergeant York** (1941) (20856467) **8.00 Bananas** (1971) (34115) **10.00 Betrayed** (1988) (10428028) **12.10am The Rocky Horror Picture Show** (1975) (536887) **1.50-3.35 The Gay Divorcee** (1934) (201055)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Once Upon a Forest (1993) (8178283) **7.15 Up in the Air** (1968) (257047) **8.15 The Magic Adventure** (1973) (2292486) **9.25 Avalanche** (1975) (2334370) **10.25 It's in the Air** (1936) (82100931) **12.00 Dennis** (1993) (76736) **2.00pm House Calls** (1978) (953009) **3.45 The Magic Adventure** (1973) (7836757) **5.00 Avalanche** (1975) (7370) **6.00 Dennis** (1993) (48370) **8.00 Assault at West Point: The Court-Martial of Johnson Whittaker** (1994) (50115) **10.00 A.P.E.X.** (1994) (218825) **11.45 Solaramorfors** (1996) (310202) **1.20am The Disappearance of Christina** (1993) (3040611) **2.55 Chain of Command** (1993) (235448) **4.40 Up in the Air** (1968) (9561005)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.

6.00am Muppet Babies (49486115) **6.30** Winnie the Pooh (49801318) **7.00** Duckdales (10230757) **7.30** Quack Attack (10242592) **8.00** Chip 'N Dale Rescue Rangers (83411467) **8.30** Sing Me a Story with Belle (93410738) **9.00** Under the Umbrella Tree (93434318) **9.30** Froggle Rock (83184347) **10.00** Muppet Babies (49883370) **10.30** Pooh Corner (93423202) **11.00** Winnie the Pooh (42892302) **11.30** Dumbo's Circus (42893931) **12.00** Disney (40010290) **1.00pm** FILM: Breaking Free (49808863) **3.00** Winnie the Pooh (87777592) **3.30** Duckdales (80478405) **4.00** Quack Attack (80457912) **4.30** Chip 'N Dale Rescue Rangers (80453196) **5.00** Boy Meets World (87756009) **5.30** Danger Bay (80477776) **6.00** Tarzan (80474689) **6.30** Dinosaurs (80453641) **7.00** Zorro (87765573) **7.30** FILM: The Old Curiosity Shop — Part One (78610919) **9.00** The Making of Toy Story (42869736) **9.30-10.00** Dinosaurs (99488739)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Aerobics (18486) **8.30** Cycling (29028) **10.00** International Motorsports Report (50202) **11.00** Weightlifting (47738) **12.00** Boxing (70080) **1.00pm** Indycar (15641) **3.00** Touring Car (61757) **4.00** Olympic Games (73592) **5.00** Live Marathon (381196) **7.30** Speedworld (29776) **9.00** Pro Wrestling (52937) **10.00** Football (59394) **11.00** Eurogolf Magazine (51931) **12.00-12.30am** All Sports (14974)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Gillette World Sport Special (57115) **7.30** World of Speed and Beauty (69950) **8.00** Powerboat World (75047) **8.30** Racing News (74318) **9.00** Aerobics Oz Style (58370) **9.30** Super League: Oldham v Leeds (14115) **10.30** Trans World Sport (86844) **11.30** Finish Line (65573) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (78134) **12.30pm** Football Special (167863) **3.30** Superbikes Championship — San Marino (22047) **5.30** Max Out (4554) **6.00** Sports Centre (1467) **6.30** Tartan Extra (5047) **7.00** Monday Night Football — Live (53539689) **10.15** Sports Centre (492347) **10.45** Tartan Extra (842888) **11.15** Bushido — the Ultimate Fight (473283) **12.15am** Football (752581) **2.15-2.45** Sports Centre (426429)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm Dennis Taylor's Pots of Gold (1080301) **10.30** Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (9729196) **12.00** A to Z of Sport — Golf

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

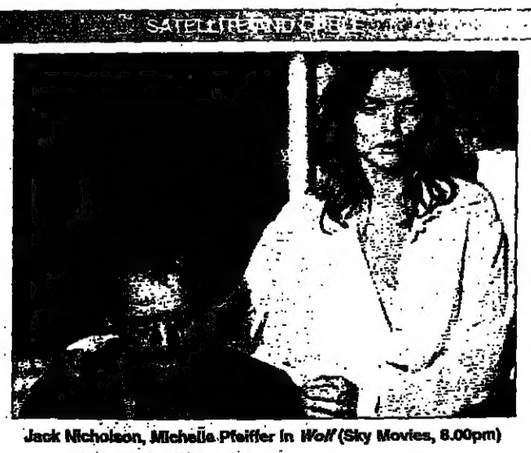
4.00am Thought for the Day **4.05** Worship **4.15** Kids TV **4.30** Voice of Faith with Walter Hallam **5.00** Voice of Victory with Kenneth and Glona Copeland **5.30** Christian Music TV **5.45** Miracles — Yesterday Today and Forever

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (8768931) **7.55** As the World Turns (1348883) **8.50** Peyton Place (3490776) **9.20** Days of Our Lives (4585301) **10.10-11.00** Another World (3096080)

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globetrotter (7871573) **11.30** Australia from the Outside Looking In (8638370) **12.30pm** Spice of Life (1278028) **1.00** Getaway (3007979) **1.30** Great Escapes (1277399) **2.00** Trailside (4128863) **2.30** Dive the World (5646009) **3.00** Globetrotter. (4107370) **3.30** Around the World . . in 30 Minutes (7310592) **3.55-4.00** Holiday Shop (10303318)



Jack Nicholson, Michelle Pfeiffer in *Wolf* (Sky Movies, 8.00pm)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00 Titanic (4118486) **6.00-7.00** Biography: James Stewart (1286047)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00pm The Tomorrow People (4139979) **7.30** Captain Power (5652202) **8.00** Starman (9131028) **9.00** The Outer Limits (9144592) **10.00** Close **1.00am** The Six Million Dollar Man (9810697) **2.00** FILM: Neanderthal Man (56223784) **3.20-4.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (1869622)

TLC

9.00am Surprise Chefs (3863573) **9.30** Grow Your Own (1843028) **10.00** Stagestruck (4812912) **10.30** Our House (3969757) **11.00** Room for Improvement (7044825) **11.30** Craftwas (7045554) **12.00** Julia Child (3950009) **12.30pm** The Frugal Gourmet (1847844) **1.00** Yan Can Cook (1990467) **1.30** Furniture to Go (1846115) **2.00** Our House (8364641) **2.30** Gardens Without Borders (6259582) **3.00** Screaming Reels (8303776) **3.30-4.00** This Old House

UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (1993554) **7.30** Neighbours (1912689) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2842080) **8.30** EastEnders (3981979) **9.00** The Bill (3965931) **9.30** The Sullivans (1845486) **10.00** Secret Army (1901573) **11.00** Bullseye (7046283) **11.30** Odd One Out (9030370) **12.05pm** Sons and Daughters (23637047) **12.30** Neighbours (1849202) **1.00** EastEnders (4398689) **1.35** Sykes (2695134) **2.15** Man About the House (3368979) **2.50** Three Up, Two Down (3092738) **3.30** The Bill (6230467) **4.00** Minder (7060863) **5.00** Every Second Counts (6407991) **5.45** 'Allo 'Allo! (8723863) **6.25** EastEnders (9929979) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (4752008) **8.00** Bullseye (8306863) **8.30** Man About the House (8385370) **9.00** Casualty (4774221) **10.00** The Bill (2845825) **10.35** Top of the Pops (2497028) **11.20** Widows (2745979) **12.20am** FILM: Berlin Express (48224055) **1.40-3.00** Shopping

TCC

6.00am Tiny and Crew (66486) **7.00** Sesame Street (89912) **8.00** Barney and Friends (67365) **8.30** Dinobabies (17806) **9.00** Art Attack (3123981) **9.15** No Naked Flames (7342369) **9.30** Ready or Not (39757) **10.00** Heartbreak High (15776) **10.30** Hang Time (14950) **11.00** Madison (20842) **11.30** Babysitters Club (70301) **12.00** Garfield and Friends (17842) **12.30pm** Felix the Cat (83573) **1.00** Earthworm Jim (23254) **1.30** Creepy Crawlers (32844) **2.00-5.00** Madison (515950)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Banana Sandwich (13370) **7.00** Kikis Tomatoes (55757) **7.30** Pet Shop (67582) **8.00** Wishbone (73689) **8.30** Rude Dog (65660) **9.00** Biker Mice (56912) **9.30** Clarissa (93931) **10.00** Rugrats (30950) **10.30** Real Monsters (52195) **11.00** Rocko (62486) **11.30** Doug (63115) **12.00** Sister Sister (76776) **12.30pm** Pete & Pete (49937) **1.00** Capital Critters (54028) **1.30** Pet Shop (99478) **2.00** Wishbone (5496) **2.30** Rude Dog (1080) **3.00** Count Duckula (7221) **3.30** Mighty Max (3825) **4.00** The Cryptkeeper (5680) **4.30** Rugrats (1844) **5.00** Sister Sister (6738) **5.30** Mirror Mirror (2196) **6.00** Ren and Stimpy (9009) **6.30-7.00** Afraid of the Dark? (3689)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Time Travellers (6240844) **4.30** Human-Nature (6246028) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (8308221) **5.30** Voyager (6220080) **6.00** Fire (6250221) **6.30** Beyond **7.30** Strange Powers (6247757) **8.00** Visitors from Space (4769399) **9.00** Seawings (4772863) **10.00** Classic Wheels (4775950) **11.00** Unexplained (7069134) **11.30-12.00** Kremlin's Embalmers (4818196)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Smallest Show on Earth (9242844) **1.30pm** Death Valley Days (1833841) **2.00** The Saint (4817467) **3.00** Danger Man (7043196) **4.00** FILM: Back to Batasi (8301318) **5.00** Robin Hood (6254047) **6.30** The Time Tunnel (9967221) **7.30** Sapphire and Steel (6234283) **8.00** The Saint (4758825) **9.00** Starsky and Hutch (4776689) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Trouble Bound (7042467)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Different Strokes **7.30** Entertainment **8.00** Due South **9.00** Soap **9.30** Taxi **10.00** Frasier **10.30** Comedy Night **12.30** Benson **1.00** Wings **1.30** Laverne and Shirley **2.00** Entertainment **2.30** Saturday Night Live **3.30-4.00** The Vacant Lot

UK LIVING

6.00am Kilroy (5680879) **7.00** Esther (5570318) **8.30** An Englishwoman's Garden (8773554) **9.00** A Cook's Tour of France (6702399) **9.35** Kate & Allie (8200009) **10.05** Jerry Springer (8783134) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (8278399) **11.55** Brookside (4078660) **12.30pm** Dangerous Women (9540844) **1.25** Crosswits (6810202) **2.00** Agony Hour (2573283) **3.00** Live at Three (6858757) **4.00** Infatuation UK (2415738) **4.30** Crosswits (3102776) **5.05** Lingo (16295450) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (2428202) **6.00** Bewitched (2425115) **6.30** Brookside (6113979) **7.05** Food and Drink (7407365) **7.35** The Joker's Wild (6069047) **8.05** Street Legal (9480863) **9.00** FILM: Make Me an Offer (79214573) **10.55** Entertainment Now (1412009) **11.00-12.00** The Sex Files II (4144641)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Road to Avonlea (4844) **6.00** Batman (1966) **6.30** Catchphrase (2115) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (5573) **7.30** The Fall Guy (26399) **8.30** Duty Free (8888) **9.00** Stay Lucky (23009) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (28196) **11.00** Sirens (32931) **12.00** The Fall Guy (60264) **1.00am** Batman (49326) **1.30** GP (69622) **2.00** Big Brother Jake (32185) **2.30** Sirens (18332) **3.30** GP (82662)

MTV

7.30am First Look (44776) **8.00** Morning Mix (101478) **11.00** US Top 20 Countdown (20196) **12.00** Greatest Hits (21738) **1.00pm** Music Non-stop (54329) **3.00** Select MTV (12405) **4.00** Hanging Out (3738) **6.00** Dial MTV (3221) **8.30** Road Rules (4573) **7.00** Hit List UK (45405) **9.00** Unplugged (97198) **9.30** Amour (27931) **10.30** The State (91009) **11.00** Yo! (41844) **1.00** Videos (1237177)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (3099950) **9.00** Cafe VH-1 (2506414) **12.00** Heart and Soul (1282221) **1.00pm** The Vinyl Years (1268841) **2.00** Squeeze (7821383) **3.00** Into the Music (1608825) **6.00** Happy Hour (1288405) **7.00** VH-1 for You (9124738) **8.00** VH-

STAMPEDE 42
GRAHAM SEARJEANT ON THE RUSH FROM MUTUALITY

BUSINESS

FOOTSTEPS 42
TOP POSTS REMAIN IN THE FAMILY

MONDAY APRIL 15 1996

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

UK firms join £8bn rush to rebuild Bosnia

By Sarah Cunningham

BRITISH companies are hoping to be awarded their first contracts for the reconstruction of Bosnia within a month. Up to £8 billion will be spent on rebuilding war-ravaged former Yugoslavia over the next four years. War damage has been estimated at $50 billion.

Defence Systems, a London-based private security company, is understood to be close to signing a contract to clear mines from the former war zone, a key step to allowing reconstruction to begin.

Amec, the engineering and construction group, is hoping to sign utilities repair contracts within weeks. Prospects for British companies brightened after $1.23 billion of new aid for rebuilding Bosnia was pledged by representatives of 50 countries and 30 international agencies meeting in Brussels at the weekend.

David Robson, chairman of Amec's manufacturing and services division, said his company already had people in Bosnia working on securing contracts for repairing gas, water and electricity supplies as well as rebuilding roads.

"We expect the first contracts in a matter of time — within the next month," he said. Amec will use local Bosnian manpower. Other construction companies, including Balfour Beatty, have sent scouting parties to Bosnia, while a consultancy, Howard Humphreys & Partners, the British subsidiary of Brown & Root of the US, has moved some staff to Sarajevo. The Department of Trade and Industry says that it has received inquiries from 200 companies about work in the former Yugoslavia.

Competition to win contracts has been hotting up since the start of the year. Many American and continental European companies have been chasing business with the energetic backing of their governments.

Amec sees itself in a particularly strong position because, since July 1994, it has had workers sponsored by the Overseas Development Agency assisting Sarajevo Gas to replace thousands of illegal connections. Northern Ireland Electricity also helped to ensure some continuation of power supplies in Sarajevo during hostilities.

The World Bank and European Union are now working together to identify key projects, although a Bosnian-Serb boycott of the weekend conference will hamper reconstruction in that part of the former Yugoslavia. The Bank and the EU will provide the names of possible contractors to Bosnian authorities who will award contracts. The World Bank has so far identified 12 emergency projects and has granted credits to allow work to begin. It says that up to $5.1 billion will be needed to get the state back into reasonable shape. Pledges of $600 million for emergency work were made last December, although not all the money has been delivered.

The DTI is to hold a conference in London on April 29 on opportunities arising from reconstruction in Bosnia. It hopes Bosnian politicians will attend. DTI officials have been working to overcome concern that Britain was falling behind in the race for contracts when they start to flow. Many businessmen complained that they were not given adequate help to secure work for the rebuilding of Kuwait after the Gulf War, when American firms took many of the plum deals.

This time round, British officials have been quicker off the mark. "We cannot complain. The embassy (in Sarajevo) has been very helpful and is well-respected," said Mr Robson. Colin Adams, head of the British Consultants Bureau, which has been working with the DTI, said: "The embassy has been outstanding in the help it has given."

The Foreign Office is in the process of appointing a full-time trade representative to be sent from London to the embassy in Sarajevo. A local representative was appointed in March. A trade mission, headed by Martin Laing, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, is expected in early July.

Aid pledged, page 12

A man repairs his house in the suburb of Dobrinja in Sarajevo. Full-scale reconstruction in Bosnia will start shortly

Small business 'crisis' in Europe

By Sarah Cunningham

BRITISH entrepreneurs are more optimistic than their counterparts in Europe about the prospects for their national economy and for their own companies, but they are gloomier than they were six months ago, says a survey published today.

Dr Neil Cross, international director of 3i, the venture capital company that produced the survey, said that it revealed "a crisis of confidence amongst Europe's small firms". He added: "It may be that the implementation of still lower interest rates is required to boost prospects and restore business confidence for the future."

The bi-annual European Enterprise Index, put together by 3i, covers the expectations of entrepreneurs who manage small and medium-sized businesses in Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Only the British took a positive view of their commercial outlook, but they were gloomier than when they were last surveyed. The French are the most pessimistic on this front, closely followed by the Germans.

British firms were also alone in expecting turnover, profitability and employment levels to increase in the next 12 months. But unlike peers in France and Italy, they expect their marketing, research and development and training expenditure to fall. Entrepreneurs in all five countries expect investment to decline.

Firms in all countries, but particularly in Italy, expect wages to rise. Only French firms see prices falling.

Sweeteners aimed at taking strain out of Railtrack float

By Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent

THE Government will today unveil a bumper package of sweeteners to attract shareholders to the £1.8 billion Railtrack flotation when it publishes the pathfinder prospectus for the sale today.

A cocktail of share discounts, windfall dividends and a 7 per cent yield will be on offer to help to allay investors' fears about the political risks attached to the offer.

For the first time in a privatisation, the Treasury has agreed to profits earned by a company while in the public sector being handed out to private investors. About £70 million will be paid out as dividends for the year that ended on March 31. City advis-ers pointed out that the payout, combined with the 15p share discount to small investors and the part-paid structure of the share payments will give shareholders a first year return of up to 20 per cent. That is thought to be the biggest premium over building society rates since the first public flotations a decade ago.

Political arguments over the sale are likely to be heightened by details of directors' bonus packages outlined in the prospectus. It will show directors can earn up to 40 per cent of basic salary in bonuses if profit targets are met.

For Bob Horton, the chairman, who earned a basic salary of £122,000 last year (plus a £31,000 bonus) that would amount to an extra £48,500. John Edmonds, his chief executive, could earn a £52,800 bonus on his basic salary of £132,000. However, to avoid allegations of "fat cat" handouts, there will be no share options. The prospectus will reveal that operating profits for the year just ended fell from £304 million to £296 million. However, they are predicted to grow to about £400 million by the year 2000.

The directors' bonuses and shareholder incentives are certain to provoke fresh outrage from Labour and the unions who will claim that the public and the City are being bribed to invest in a company that has assets valued at three times its expected sales value.

The pathfinder prospectus will include a lengthy statement from Clare Short, the Shadow Transport Secretary, detailing Labour's plans to subject the company to a tough regulatory regime with the eventual goal of taking it back into public ownership.

Rail privatisation faces further hurdles this week. On Tuesday, the Save Our Railways lobby group will launch a new legal action aimed at forcing the Government to allow British Rail to bid for franchises. Next day, Labour will lead a Commons debate on the Railtrack flotation that is expected to end in a close vote. Although no Tory backbenchers have said they will rebel against the Government, the debate could flush out deep unhappiness with the sale among some Conservative and Ulster Unionist MPs.

A survey by the Transport Salaried Staffs Association, out today, shows half of Railtrack's senior managers and four out of five middle-managers oppose privatisation on safety grounds.

Labour anger, page 2

MMC attacked after leak

By Paul Durman

THE leaking of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on two big electricity company takeovers has cast doubt over the integrity of Britain's competition regime, Labour's energy spokesman claimed yesterday.

John Battle, Shadow Energy minister, said that if companies feel they cannot rely on the MMC to protect the confidentiality of the sensitive information it receives, "the whole system is in question".

MMC reports are regarded as highly secret before publication because the findings are likely to have a big impact on the share prices of companies involved.

Mr Battle said: "I don't think anybody will ever trust reports going to the MMC again. It's really worrying. If the Government can't trust its MMC then how can it have a credible competition policy?"

The Department of Trade and Industry is threatening to obtain an injunction against *The Economist*, which published the details, unless copies of the MMC ruling on the proposed £1.95 billion takeover of Midlands Electricity by PowerGen and the £2.8 billion approach from National Power for Southern Electric are returned by 3pm today.

Shares in the companies, and other potential takeover targets, rose sharply on Friday because the MMC is recommending to the DTI that the bids be allowed to proceed. However, the Commission believes that some aspects of the deals "may be expected to operate against the public interest".

A DTI spokesman said that it was a criminal offence under the Fair Trading Act to reveal commercial information provided as part of an MMC investigation. The DTI believes that the copy seen by the Adam Raphael, the journalist, contains sensitive information that will be excised from the published report.

The leak is expected to add to pressure on Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, to make known his ruling on the electricity takeovers.

Mr Battle said that Labour still had an open mind about the takeovers and wanted more detail about the conditions the MMC reportedly wants to impose.

Society to unveil payout

By Robert Miller

BRISTOL & WEST, Britain's ninth-largest building society, with assets of £9 billion, will today unveil the terms and details of likely bonus payouts after the Bank of Ireland announces a £600 million takeover of the society.

More than a million qualifying Bristol & West savers and borrowers can expect to receive average bonuses of close to £500. The future of Bristol & West has been the subject of intense speculation for a number of weeks as the society sought to finalise the details of the takeover by Ireland's second largest bank.

By last Thursday, long queues of speculators hoping to cash in on the bonuses at the last minute had formed outside many branches and the society was forced to freeze new share accounts with immediate effect.

Bristol & West, which has nearly 160 branches, is expected to keep its own corporate indentity in a deal that will mirror the £1.8 billion takeover of the Cheltenham & Gloucester, a larger society, by Lloyds Bank last year. C&G is now the retail mortgage arm of the high street clearer.

Bank of Ireland has assets of nearly £20 billion and 27 branches in the UK, including Glasgow, Liverpool, Cardiff, London and Manchester. The Bristol & West deal will also help to grow the bank's £3 billion mortgage book.

Bristol & West will need to secure the approval of its members. As the deal works its way through the system, speculation on the next likely candidate for a merger or conversion to banking status will become even more intense.

The Treasury and the Building Societies Commission are increasingly concerned about the destabilising effect that the flow of money into the next "hot" merger or takeover target is having, particularly on smaller societies.

Graham Searjeant, page 42

Routes to City, Heathrow and Oxford are planned

Branson dreams of rail empire

By Our Transport Correspondent

RICHARD BRANSON is planning to build a Virgin rail empire linking the City of London with Heathrow Airport and lucrative tourist destinations such as Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon and Windsor. Despite last month's setback when he failed to secure the Gatwick Express franchise, Mr Branson is determined to become one of the leading players in Britain's new-look railways.

Virgin is already one of the leading lights in London & Continental Railways, the consortium that won the right to build the Channel Tunnel rail link and operate Eurostar high-speed train services to Paris, Brussels and the heart of Europe. The company is now turning its attention to domestic rail franchises.

Mr Branson's group is bidding for the Thames Trains franchise, potentially one of the most attractive on the network. It runs services between Paddington and destinations in Berkshire, Oxfordshire [illegible]

Richard Branson is ready to roll

particularly attracted to the growth potential offered by destinations such as Oxford, one of the country's top tourist cities. Currently the route between Oxford and London is dominated by two highly competitive bus services that offer [illegible]

day-return tickets for as little as £2.97, far undercutting the best price available on the train.

Mr Branson believes there is scope to attract much of the coach business back to the railways by providing a 55-minute London to Oxford express service.

The other attraction of the franchise is that it could give its operator access to the Heathrow North railway station that BAA is planning to build near the airport. Virgin is examining the possibility of part-financing and developing the station if it wins the Thames Trains franchise.

If the Heathrow North station goes ahead, air passengers would have the chance to travel directly to the City by rail through yet another project under consideration by Mr Branson. This would involve reopening disused freight lines to create a direct 30-minute train service from the airport to the City. The "Virgin City Link" service could attract up to three million passengers every year and would open as early as 1998.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 756

ACROSS
1 Fibre: old invading tribesman (4)
3 Inauspicious, improper (8)
9 Giver (5)
10 Entrance attendant (7)
11 Foreboding: to portend (7)
12 Group of workers, criminals (4)
14 Far away (6)
16 International cultural organisation (*abbr.*) (6)
18 Seize rudely (4)
19 Type of boat, bodice, Hall (7)
22 Trimming of tresses (7)
23 Where drivers may sleep (5)
24 Something named illogically (8)
25 Sharp end of boat (4)

DOWN
1 Rider's trousers (8)
2 Severities one is abandoned to (*iron.*) (6,7)
4 Small valuable lump (6)
5 Shape with eight sides (7)
6 One who runs things (13)
7 Dip (food) into liquid (4)
8 — Major, the Great Bear (4)
13 Painful setback (4,4)
15 Substance smoked (7)
17 Hail to thee, — Spirit! (*Shelley*) (6)
20 Paperwork (*slang*) (4)
21 Counterfeit (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 755
ACROSS: 1 Cluttered 6 Cop 8 Tedious 9 Sit up 10 Dart 11 Almighty 13 Rumer 14 Accept 17 Disarray 18 Otis 20 Crest 21 Samurai 22 Lot 23 Sedentary
DOWN: 1 Cote d'Or 2 Under one's feet 3 Thor 4 Rustle 5 Distinct 6 Catchment area 7 Poppy 12 Detritus 15 Testify 16 Massed 17 Ducal 19 Amen

AKOM LIMITED IS NOW OFFERING READERS OF THE TIMES FREE DELIVERY OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AT STANDARD RETAIL PRICE — OFFER APPLIES UK ONLY.
TIMES WORLD ATLASES: 9th Comprehensive De Luxe Edition £85. 7th Concise Edition £45 3rd Family Edition £17.99. Compact Edition £8.99. Mini (Pocket) Edition £5.99 ALSO The Times World History (PB) £12.99.
TIMES THEMATIC ATLASES: The Times Atlas of World History (HB) £40. Concise Edition (PB) £14.99. Compact Edition (HB) £9.99. The Times Atlas of European History (HB) £25. The Times Atlas of Archaeology (HB) £35. The Times London History Atlas (HB) £22.99. Also NEW The Times Quiz book £4.50.
Send cheques with order payable to Akom Ltd 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW Delivery to 5 days. Tel. 0181-852 4575 (24hrs) No credit cards.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

PUT YOURSELF ON THE SPOT
GOLDEN WONDER AVON FAIRLINE curver Weetabix
...and 800 other successful companies that have chosen Corby in the past ten years. Two-thirds of them in manufacturing. Highest proportion in UK of overseas companies. A private investment of over £1,000m. Corby. Spot on for its central position, superb communications, dedicated workforce and superior lifestyle. The spot where you'll find yourself in the best of business company.
Put yourself on the spot...
Ring John Hill on 01536 262571
CORBY WORKS
Video presentation pack available on request
To: John Hill, Director of Industry, Corby Industrial Development Centre, Grosvenor House, George Street, Corby, Northants NN17 1YZ.
NAME
COMPANY
ADDRESS
P/CODE
TEL:
Times 15/4
Nothing doesn't better

198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary.